FBIS DAILY REPORT

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LATIN AMERICAN PRESIDENTS MEET IN SANTA MARTA

Simon Bolivar Honored

PA171901 [Editorial Report] Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish at 1750 GMT on 17 December broadcasts live from Santa Marta ceremonies marking the death of Simon Bolivar. Present at the ceremonies are the heads of state: Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala of Colombia; Jaime Roldos of Eucador; Jose Napoleon Durate of El Salvador; Rodrigo Carazo of Costa Rica; Adolfo Suarez of Spain and Fernando Belaunde Terry of Peru. Venezuelan President Herrera Campins and Dominican Republic President Antonio Guzman are scheduled to arrive later in the day. No mention is made of Panamanian President Aristides Royo.

During the ceremony, the heads of state lay wreaths at the Bolivar monument, after which an unidentified speaker reads Bolivar's last proclamation. Following this, the station announcer asks for 1 minute of silence all over the nation. After the moment of silence, taps is played, an artillery salute is fired and a band plays the national anthem. The relay ends at 1804 GMT.

Panamanian President's Arrival

PA190429 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 17 Dec 80

[Julio Miller report from Santa Marta on events to commemorate the 150th anniversary of Simon Bolivar's death--live telephone relay]

[Excerpt] Panamanian President Aristides Royo has stated the Panamanian stand regarding the exclusion of Bolivia from the Andean Pact. He said that Bolivia cannot and must not be withdrawn from the Andean Pact. Royo arrived in Santa Marta this morning at approximately 0930 accompanied by a delegation made up of 30 persons including Lt Col Ruben Dario Paredes, deputy commander of the national guard; Foreign Minister Carlos Ozores Typaldos; Carlos Noriega, president of the electoral tribunal, Gonzalo Rodriguez Marquez, president of the supreme court and other top government officials.

President Royo's Speech

PA192238 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 2013 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Speech by Panamanian President Aristides Royo, presumably at the municipal council in Santa Marta, Colombia--live]

[Excerpts] The proper question to ask would be: Are we American rulers making all the necessary efforts toward unity? I daresay we are making some effort, but perhaps not our best or greatest effort.

The Santa Marta summit, being attended by nine heads of state, is an important event. All the declarations, meetings, encounters and dialogues held by the heads of state of Latin America and the Caribbean, with Spain's always enthusiastic and cooperative presence, show some effort. But there is no unity yet among the countries of Latin America. There are still some differences to overcome. Some rancor has not been abolished yet.

When we observe the Santa Marta declaration, which I hope will not be just another declaration, and which will be signed by all of us this afternoon, we see that it speaks of the heroic Spanish endeavor in which the blood of Spain mingled with the young, new blood of this continent. It appears as though this blood that was spilled was not peaceful blood, but blood like that spilled between Cain and Abel. And these differences, gentlemen, we must eliminate because if we want to make way for development, if we want to struggle--I am not going to say against the United States because that is a position of dignity--we must first unite among ourselves, make the necessary treaties, mediations and conditions.

And it must be the first activity in which the heads of the American countries should engage, because all efforts to unite, economically, culturally and for the sake of development, will meet with failure if we do not first settle some of the differences that unfortunately still separate us, if all we rulers of America do not sit down and establish peace and strike off the record all the incidents that occurred in this century and in the last. [applause]

But when we speak of Latin American unity, we must not forget some circumstances. This unity must be total. It cannot be a unity founded on principles of exclusion. It cannot be unity with exclusions; we must integrate further the countries of the Caribbean. The president of the Dominican Republic is here today, but we must grow closer to those countries which sometimes think more about Africa than about continental America. We must integrate this insular America. I also wish to state here today, with total and absolute sincerity, that it all must be integrated, that is, all the Caribbean.

Here in Latin America, there are countries, governments, that have relations with China. There are countries that have relations with the Soviet Union. But they do not have relations with a sister nation because it has a socialist government, because it has a government we do not like, because it has a government whose political system we do not approve. We are saying yes to trade, exchange and diplomatic relations and sometimes even relations of international cooperation to very faraway countries with very different blood, sentiment and thought, while isolating sister nations. We hope the same does not occur with other countries that want to give themselves political systems and regimes which we may not even approve.

We also have noticed the way some American nations are isolating Nicaragua, which is not a socialist country but which is a country that is carrying out its revolution, a country that was established by a group of young--very young--and rebellious people who decided it was necessary to teach reading and writing, who decided it was necessary to shake off and change the old structures and old political molds, because we sometimes do not like some of their actions. Instead of the tendency to unite and draw closer, we perhaps select the easiest thing: rejection. Care must be taken to not do the same with Grenada.

The day we begin to respect our different political systems, whether we like them or not, whether we feel as they do or not, that day we will be able to speak of the unity of all the Latin American Continent.

It is our responsibility--as it should have been the responsibility of other generations--to execute those social reforms which were really the first objective for which Bolivar fought. I believe we have not achieved it, perhaps because we have not tried hard enough. If a government thinks more of tanks, cannons, armored vehicles, warships and supersonic planes, if a government appropriates large sums for the nation's arsenal, not paying attention to waterworks, health, sewers, roads and the schools, we are not making the best possible effort to obtain the objectives Bolivar outlined for us.

Delayed social reforms are not going to be reforms. We must send a loud and clear message to the ultraleft, which must understand that poverty cannot be socialized, and we cannot risk the failure of this political model. That is not in the interest of Latin America.

But we also must tell the extremist sectors of the right that it is best that they begin to understand and to accept that these social reforms must be implemented very soon because later on they will have to be implemented by the people. Other sectors will have to implement them, perhaps not through the path of a beautiful constitution or through marvelous laws, but through violence, the armed path.

I believe--and I hope I am not wrong--that there is still time for us to do it. As the necessary social reforms are made, despite the difference of our systems, through the political regimes that are in line with the idiosyncracies of our people, we will not only be buying peace for the future, but we also will be really creating a fatherland.

Santa Marta Declaration

PA192118 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 2309 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Santa Marta declaration signed on 18 December, read by Colombian Foreign Minister Diego Uribe Vargas--live]

[Text] Gathered in the City of Santa Marta at the invitation of Colombian President Dr Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala to honor liberator Simon Bolivar on the 150th anniversary of his death, Rodrigo Carazo Odio, president of the Republic of Costa Rica; Jaime Roldos Aguilera, president of the Republic of Ecuador; Aristides Royo, president of the Republic of Panama; Fernando Belaunde Terry, president of the Republic of Peru; Antonio Guzman Fernandez, president of the Dominican Republic; Luis Herrera Campins, president of the Republic of Venezuela; Jose Napoleon Duarte, chairman of the revolutionary government junta of El Salvador, and Adolfo Suarez, prime minister of the Government of the Kingdom of Spain, aware that the best honor [words indistinct] to the memory and work of liberator Simon Bolivar is to recognize the permanent force of his ideals, have decided to sign the following declaration named after the city where the liberator spent his final hours.

Santa Marta Declaration: The presidents reaffirm that the sovereign will of the people, freely expressed through a vote, is the only legitimate source of authority. They once again admit that the unity of the Latin American nations is a firm requirement not just for their progress and development but also for the maintenance of their historic identity and their common destiny. They honor the liberator's prophetic vision, who in the letter of Jamaica, in the convening of the Amphictyonic Congress in Panama, in his daily life and even in his retreat in Santa Marta, set the stage for freedom and solidarity among the nations of the New World.

They proclaim that many principles of international law that have now been incorporated into regional practice and are also part of (?mankind's) wealth, especially in the United Nations, originated with Bolivar. Nonintervention in states' internal affairs, respect for valid treaties, peaceful settlement of controversies, respect for territorial integrity and hemispheric citizenship are instances of how Bolivar's design of a legal order has contributed to the universal institutionalization of international law, and especially of our American institutions. They reaffirm that, since the force of freedom cannot be separated from economic and social developments, it is necessary to make a new, vigorous cooperation effort to create conditions that will couple those freedoms with a more just social order.

The full force of the democratic institutions and the political and social stability of nations will not be possible if an international economic order prevails whereby the just prices required by the common responsibility of nations are not set for commodities and raw materials. They proclaim that the institutionalization of democracy is the best guarantee for the freedom and development of their nations. They also voice their common desire to find ways to maintain and strengthen the institutions that have genuinely stemmed from the will of the people.

The presidents state their concern over the critical social and economic conditions of many Caribbean nations and they reiterate their desire to cooperate with them in overcoming their problems. To strengthen understanding between the integration processes in the Caribbean, the CACM and the Andean Pact is a geopolitical need in the area which has its historic justification in the decisive cooperation that liberator Bolivar received from the Caribbean to carry out his work of liberation.

They note the importance of the oil agreements signed by the presidents of Mexico and Venezuela to supply crude to the Central American and Caribbean nations on easy credit terms to develop energy resources as an example of international justice and solidarity.

Colombian President Dr Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala, Ecuadorean President Jaime Roldos Aguilera, Peruvian President Fernando Belaunde Terry and Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins, with the solemn and fraternal witness of the other presidents present in Santa Marta, reaffirm this historic date the urgency of expediting the integration process they are engaged in by overcoming existing difficulties and allowing the institutional mechanisms of the Cartagena Agreement to have full force.

The coming entry into force of the justice tribunal, the performance of the duties of the Andean parliament, the scope given to the council of ministers and all those other specialized bodies that are part of the system should strengthen to the utmost the faith of the peoples and governments in the political and economic potential of integration so that, without disregarding commitments to all of Latin America, the subregional nations will achieve the superior objectives of the Andean Group and the Cartagena Agreement. They restate that physical integration is indispensable to consolidating the area's development process and they support initiatives intended to achieve that objective.

The presidents gathered in Santa Marta voice their special pleasure at the signing and entry into force of the general peace treaty between the Republics of El Salvador and Honduras, the result of diligent mediation. They stress its significance as a contribution to harmony and solidarity among the Latin American nations and as an example and encouragement to the desire for universal peace.

The presidents of Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Panama, Peru, the Dominican Republic and Venezuela and the premier of the Government of the Kingdom of Spain had the opportunity to talk to Jose Napoleon Duarte, civilian chairman of the revolutionary government junta of El Salvador, and were pleased to learn of his determination to lead the way to democracy so that at the nearest future date, peace and freedom can reign in El Salvador.

Determined as the presidents are to strengthen the process of return to democratic rule in America, they are pleased to report the clear-cut political commitments that President Duarte willingly accepted before them and which entail recognition that free elections are the only legitimate source of power. They also stress the firm intention of the chief of the new government of El Salvador to do everything he can to forestall the bleeding of his people. In this context, they reiterate the desire to help, without hurting the principle of nonintervention, nations and governments that request the cooperation of the democratic nations in order to incorporate themselves to the said political system.

The chiefs of state stress and welcome with sincere affection the presence and participation in this commemoration of Spain, which all the Spanish American peoples view as their motherland. Spain is ever present. In a heroic advnecure, it brought the faith to America, gave it its language, mixed its blood and introduced it into a common history. The destiny of Spain and the Spanish American nations is indissolubly linked because they constitute a family of nations.

The presidents gathered in Santa Marta on this solemn occasion restate their desire to continue cooperating regarding the demands for stable international peace, strengthening the institutions which favor civilized coexistence, and notably joining efforts to achieve a new economic order which, upholding the dignity of nations and human freedom, will constitute the best tribute to Simon Bolivar 150 years after his death.

The presidents of the Republics of Costa Rica, Ecuador, Panama, Peru, Venezuela and El Salvador, and of the Dominican Republic, and the prime minister of the Government of the Kingdom of Spain hereby note their profound recognition of his excellency the president of Colombia, Dr Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala, together with the people and officials of this historic city, for the excellent hospitality and the many kindnesses extended to them on their visit to Santa Marta.

PAPER REPORTS 'NO HURRY' TO END BEAGLE TALKS

PY201829 Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 19 Dec 80 p 1

[J. Iglesias Rouca article: "The Difficult Oceans of Beagle"]

[Excerpt] In view of the very little-or no--advantage for Argentina in the pope's "proposal" on Beagle, the military junta yesterday reportedly decided to suggest to the Vatican that Buenos Aires is in no particular hurry to end the negotiation. Consequently, Moncayo will not leave for Rome today. The junta's greatest concern is concentrated on the so-called "peace zone," which according to Pope John Paul II's proposal extends over a great part of the Argentine sea, that is, with a projection 200 miles east from the Beagle's eastern islands. The existence of such a "zone" may in the future bring into question the two-ocean principle (Atlantic Ocean for Argentina and Pacific Ocean for Chile), a problem Buenos Aires is confronting in its border differences with Chile in the south.

NATIONAL LABOR COMMISSION STATEMENT ON ILO VISIT

PY200051 Buenos Aires Noticias Argentinas in Spanish 0020 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Text] Buenos Aires, 18 Dec (NA)--The National Labor Commission (CNT) today issued a statement in which it comments on the recent visit to Argentina of the International Labor Organization (ILO) which was requested by the Argentine Government. In the statement, the CNT demands the "repeal of the so-called labor associations law because it is against labor union interests."

The CNT, one of the three major groups among which the Argentine labor movement is divided, also requested the government "to lift the restriction on union activity which was established through decree law No 9 which was issued in 1976 and through which Argentine union organizations are not allowed to issue any opinion on matters pertaining to salary and labor conditions."

The statement notes that "despite the fact that the Argentine Government appointed a labor delegation" to the recent ILO assembly "union leaders attended the ILO meeting anyway."

It also states that "the delegate representing the Argentine labor movement charged at the ILO meeting that the labor associations law violates ILO labor agreement (?87), the rights and guarantees established by the constitution and the church's social doctrine.

The statement adds that "in Geneva, the Argentine Government decided to agree to the ILO commission's visit and it expressed its willingness to fulfill all its commitments. Since the Argentine Government has expressed this desire, it has to fulfill its promise and it therefore has to repeal the labor associations law.

The CNT also asks the Argentine Government to prohibit military interventions in labor unions and it demands the release of all labor leaders who are detained. It also demands the repeal of the social works law.

The statement notes that "it is urgently necessary to reorganize this preposterous labor policy, to correct all errors in the socioeconomic policy, to accept workers' participation in deciding the destiny of labor organizations, and with an active and respected presence of the Argentine labor movement, to seek paths that will lead to much-sought national unity."

UCR OFFICIAL FAVORS POLITICAL PARTIES STATUTES

PY191526 Buenos Aires Noticias Argentinas in Spanish 2143 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] La Plata, 18 Dec (NA)--Ricardo Balbin, president of the national Radical Civic Union (UCR) commission, has said that "the political parties statutes are going to be implemented because we are going to demand it by every means" and has exhorted "the people from Buenos Aires and the capital of Buenos Aires Province" to start that job which "is going to be the most important and elevated of tasks."

Balbin spoke before 300 fellow partisans at a meeting organized by the UCR's ninth faction. He held that "with the same vocation for peace I have served with, with the same moral force with which I have stimulated good caues, with the same honesty with which I have believed it possible to achieve institutionalization by these means, I will admit in a loud voice that I have made a mistake if the political organization does not take place in this country."

He added: "If it does not take place, I will no longer be here, but the militarymen who hold power should think it over for a moment. The peace apostles disappear when many favor war."

Balbin also said that "I will seek the country's political organization" because "I believe it is indispensable for the reorganization of the republic." He explained: "I do not seek a political organization for the purpose of elections."

He continued: "The government leaders get alarmed when we talk about political organization because they believe we can displace them. All we want is a political organization to be able to applaud them for having allowed it to take place, for having allowed a peaceful organization of the parties."

BUILDING OF NUCLEAR CENTER IN URUGUAY DISCUSSED

PY182240 Buenos Aires HERALD in English 17 Dec 80 p 11

[Text] (NA)--A nuclear experimental centre, similar to one built two years ago in Peru, may be built in Uruguay by Argentina, according to the chairman of the National Atomic Energy Commission (CNEA). Vice Admiral Carlos Castro Madero said yesterday: "At present, we are giving Uruguay technical assistance and granting scholarships to their scientists, but we could build an experimental atomic centre there."

Castro Madero spoke to journalists at Jorge Newbery Airport, where he had gone to see off Uruguay's industry and energy minister, Francisco Tourreilles. Tourreilles, on a special invitation from the CNEA, visited the Atucha I centre yesterday morning. He said that the centre was "a model for the whole world," adding that Argentina and Uruguay "have given and will go on providing examples of cooperation in the energy field."

24 PEOPLE REPORTEDLY DISAPPEAR DURING DEMONSTRATION

PY191751 Porto Alegre Radio Gaucha in Portuguese 1545 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Text] According to a report released in Paris today by the Committee for Solidarity With Relatives of Imprisoned and Missing Persons in Argentina, 24 persons disappeared during a recent demonstration staged in Buenos Aires demanding that the military government provide information about missing relatives.

FORMER PRESIDENT HECTOR CAMPORA DIES IN MEXICO

PY191645 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1603 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 19 Dec (NA)--According to information released by his relatives, former President Hector Campora died in Mexico today at the age of 71. Campora had been in exile in Mexico since November 1979.

Campora died of a heart attack at 0200 Mexican time in the house he had rented in Cuernavaca where he resided with his wife, Georgina Acevedo, and his youngest son Carlos.

COMMUNIQUE CLARIFIES STANCE ON ANDEAN PACT

PY201322 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 20 Dec 80

[Communique issued by the Bolivian Integration Secretariat in La Paz on 19 December]

[Text] The General Integration Secretariat, as the organization charged with the country's integration process, deems it appropriate to clarify the scope and implications of the official declaration issued yesterday by the government with regard to Bolivian participation in the Cartagena Agreement.

First, since the Andean subregional integration process is of a socioeconomic nature, its objectives and mechanisms are outlined in the Cartagena Agreement and in the Lima and Arequipa protocols, which introduced amendments to the agreement. Since the above are treaties in full force, the Bolivian Government recognizes the commission and the board as the only valid organizations. The Andean court of justice will not be a valid organization until the treaty that created it is ratified by the Venezuelan Government.

Second, Bolivia's active, full participation in the Cartagena Agreement has been jeopardized by the political bias which suprisingly has been focused on our country, making normal dialogue with its partners difficult for Bolivia. It is proper to state that the principle of ideological pluralism was strictly observed during the first 10 years of the agreement, and that the negotiations were free from biased judgment and pressure resulting from the type of government of the member countries.

Third, because this controversy requires a legal interpretation concerning the basic objectives of the agreement and the procedures to achieve these objectives, the Bolivian Government will take the case to the appropriate organization in accordance with article 23 of the Cartagena Agreement, that is, to the LAFTA arbitration tribunal for the solution of controversies, which was created by the protocol of 2 September 1967 and signed by the 11 LAFTA members. Bolivia will abstain from participating in the Cartagena Agreement commission until the above tribunal makes a decision on the correct interpretation of the controversy that has arisen.

AUTHORITIES INCREASE ANTIDRUG TRAFFIC CONTROL

PY220130 Paris AFP in Spanish 1703 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Text] La Paz, 21 Dec (AFP)--Authorities announced here today that to eradicate drug trafficking once and for all from the national territory, the dangerous drugs directorate has ordered strict control of airports, borders, clandestine landing strips and rural villages.

Approximately 3 months ago, the government announced that it had launched a campaign aimed at putting an end to drug trafficking, for which it had trained specialized personnel and had conducted operations aimed at eradicating the production and marketing of drugs. The government even went so far as to announce that the drug traffickers will be drastically punished and that extreme cases will receive the death penalty.

'SUBVERSIVE PROPAGANDA' DETECTED IN COCHABAMBA

PY200004 Paris AFP in Spanish 1743 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Text] La Paz, 19 Dec (AFP)--It was reported here today that the authorities have started an exhuastive investigation in Quillacollo, a town in the Cochabamba Department located in the central region of Bolivia, because the authorities have detected the distribution of subversive propaganda. Quillacollo is an important industrial and agricultural center with a large population, particularly shoe industry workers.

Col Janier Pampo, the Cochabamba Prefect, has stated that department authorities have detected the distribution of leftist pamphlets with subversive propaganda calling on people to disrupt peace. Colonel Pampo said that those involved in this activity will be punished in compliance with the national security law.

PRESIDENT TURBAY OUTLINES AGREEMENTS WITH SPAIN

PA201633 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 20 Dec 80

[Speech by Colombian President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala at banquet honoring Spanish Prime Minister Adolfo Suarez in Bogota--live]

[Excerpts] Regarding the bilateral policy between Spain and Colombia, very important advances have been made. Tomorrow we will exchange the ratification documents of several agreements which were signed on occasion of my visit to Spain last year at the invitation of King Juan Carlos and Prime Minister Suarez. Very important agreements which will notably improve our relations with Spain in all areas were signed there.

I want to praise several of them and I will start with the one on the facilities for naturalization. A new image has been created with this agreement which allows Spanish residents in Colombia and Colombian residents in Spain to obtain the Spanish or Colombian citizenship as the case may be with a minimum of requirements and within a short period of time. These residents may immediately revert to their original nationality upon returning to their countries if they want. This is a very important and new agreement between the two countries which I think will yield very satisfactory results.

Another agreement we signed and which will be also exchanged tomorrow is the one on technical cooperation which is truly more useful to us than to Spain. Spain has achieved important progress and has a technology more in line with our needs. I have called it the technology in Spanish. It is not the overly sophisticated technology of the superpowers which is so costly and inaccessible for us but one we can assimilate in the best manner and the one that is closest to our possibilities. I am sure this technology will decisively contribute to [word indistinct] the economic development of our country.

We are also about to sign a cooperation agreement for the peaceful use of nuclear energy. Spain has made important progress in this area and we feel that Spanish cooperation in the training of our technicians in their masters degrees in these subjects [word indistinct] will also be very significant in our advance in this very interesting field of science.

We have also signed an agreement for diplomatic complementarity [complementariedad diplomatica]. This is a difficult term to (?use) when speaking of a treaty. However, it is an idea of Spanish internationalists which they suggested and we found reasonable.

According to this agreement, wherever Spain has no diplomatic representation and we do, we will represent them. This will also work in the opposite way: Wherever we don't have diplomatic representation and they do, they will be our representatives to that government. All these ties are creating a very solidary and close association which facilitate great developments and joint actions in various areas.

We also have the new trade agreement which will be exchanged tomorrow through which the previous compensation rules ahve been eliminated. We will now use the free method of payment with [word indistinct] and without any kind of restrictions.

However, as I have said, this treaty, although in line with the methods and demands of the European Economic Community, will not be sufficient guarantee that our trade with Spain will not be [word indistinct] in any way now that your country will become a member of the European Community.

Suarez Remarks

PA210321 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 20 Dec 80

[Speech by Spanish Prime Minister Adolfo Suarez at banquet offered in his honor by Colombian President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala in Bogota--live]

[Excerpts] I trust, Mr President, that during the talks we have held during these past few days we established the path for the cooperation between our countries in this regard. I believe that the new economic situation in the world, and especially the problems posed by the energy crisis, are opening new and necessary areas of cooperation. Spain needs many things from Colombia. For example, Spain needs coal, uranium and minerals which Colombia has a lot of. We hope that previous contacts made for cooperation in these areas will be implemented in the near future and that our bilateral trade will diversify.

Mr President, on this occasion I don't want to forget that our political models of co-existence are what have strengthened and are still strengthening the old democratic Europe.

Spain is, and I am referring to your request regarding the incorporation of my country into the EEC, especially sensitive to the ties that link it to Latin America. I want to clearly state here that we will always continue to be willing to assist in Latin America's contact with Europe if it serves the interests of the Latin American countries.

My words are not moved by [word indistinct] and you know this very well, Mr President. I am moved by a clear willingness to serve our tradition and common interests. Spain's entry into the EEC will not set Spain apart from the Latin American Continent but will serve to bring us closer and tie the Latin American countries more firmly to Europe. Spain will devote its best efforts to this.

MINISTER LAUDS MILITARY ANTISUBVERSION EFFORTS

PA211807 Paris AFP in Spanish 0558 GMT 20 Dec 80

[Text] Bogota, 19 Dec (AFP)--A "glorious outcome" against subversion in Colombia was announced today by the national defense minister, Gen Luis Carlos Camacho, in his New Year's greetings to the Armed Forces of Colombia.

The minister emphasized that in their fight against "subversive groups" the military has restored peace and curbed crime in all its forms in various parts of the country.

The general said that the "subversive escalation," whose "common denominator is based on a foreign ideology known by all," was being controlled and eliminated thanks to the tenacious efforts of the armed forces.

He added that subversion "has not ceased its fruitless attempts to cause a schism in the institutional commands and a rift among its leaders," but that this has not been possible due to the high morale of the troops.

At the same time, the minister reiterated his appeal to the guerrillas to accept the partial amnesty recently approved by the Chamber of Representatives of Colombia, at the request of President Julio Cesar Turbay.

This amnesty has been categorically turned down several times by the guerrilla groups, who demand that it include all "political prisoners".

MINISTER, PRESIDENT DENY AIDING SALVADORAN JUNTA

PA201803 Paris AFP in Spanish 1636 GMT 20 Dec 80

[Text] Caracas, 20 Dec (AFP)--Defense Minister Tomas Abreu Rescaniere has flatly denied that Venezuela has sent arms and ammunition to other nations, notably El Salvador. The Venezuelan minister stated that "as I have said on other occasions when other nations have tried to blame Venezuela for supplying weapons to third nations, I have to say now that Venezuela has not sent arms or ammunition to other countries."

In El Salvador, spokesmen for the groups opposed to the government junta have been systematically saying that the United States and other countries including Venezuela are cooperating with that Central American nation's regime by sending in war materiel.

Last night Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins also flatly denied the charges as he told newsmen: "The person you have to believe is the Venezuelan president."

ZAMBRANO SAYS IMPROVED RELATIONS 'UP TO HAVANA'

PA212157 Paris AFP in Spanish 1448 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Text] Caracas, 21 Dec (AFP)--Venezuelan Foreign Minister Jose Alberto Zambrano has said that relations between Venezuela and Cuba remain frozen and that it is up to Havana to show good will if it attributes importance and interest to its relations with Venezuela.

Observers here recalled that links between Caracas and Havana were frozen as a result of a military council's decision to acquit three people implicated in the explosion of a Cuban airplane in Barbados 4 years ago in which 73 people were killed. On that occasion, Cuban President Fidel Castro reacted harshly to the ruling and ordered the withdrawal of Cuban diplomats from Caracas shortly afterward. The Venezuelan Embassy in Havana was left almost vacant. It is believed that a total break in relations between the two countries will be imminent if the top Venezuelan military court upholds the ruling.

PRESIDENT NOTES LACK OF TALKS WITH TURBAY AYALA

PA200000 Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Text] Upon his return to Venezuela, the president of Venezuela said he had not spoken with his Colombian colleague, Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala, about the boundary differences nor about the situation of undocumented persons. He said: We had very impressive movements, especially during the commemoration of the liberator's final moments. The Venezuelan president added that the attention received from the Colombian Government and the welcome of the people of Santa Marta merited recognition. President Herrera Campins said that the most important aspect of his visit to Santa Marta was the recognition of the liberator's doctrine and the commitment to Latin American integration.

PRICE OF CRUDE TO INCREASE ABOUT $3 PER BARREL

PA201830 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1811 GMT 20 Dec 80

[Text] Caracas, 20 Dec (LATIN)--Energy and Mines Minister Humberto Calderon Berti today announced that Venezuela will increase the price of its crude by approximately $3 per barrel effective 1 January. Calderon, who returned from the OPEC conference in Bali last night, said in a meeting with the press that although the increases are still being studied, it is probable that the Venezuelan crude will go from its present price of $34.75 per barrel to $37.75. He added that the new prices will take into account the preferential price set by OPEC at $35 and that they will be announced on 1 January.

PRESIDENT REPORTEDLY SET TO EXPLAIN STAND TO REAGAN

PA201637 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 20 Dec 80

[Text] Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo has told the press in Mexico City that the Central American countries are fully entitled to their self-determination and to oppose any foreign intervention in their domestic affairs. He emphasized that during his first official meeting with U.S. President-elect Ronald Reagan, which will be held in January, he will clearly explain the Mexican stand regarding the future of Central American nations. He added that Mexico supports the right of Belize to its independence and will vigorously oppose any attempt to invade militarily that nation.

CASTANEDA: U.S. RELATIONS 'OF PRIORITY INTEREST'

PA181659 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1026 GMT 17 Dec 80

[Text] Mexico City, 17 Dec (EFE)--Relations with the United States are of priority interest to Mexico's foreign policy, Foreign Secretary Jorge Castaneda stressed here.

The secretary for foreign relations sais yesterday that with Ronald Reagan taking over as U.S. president, "these relations could be affected [pueden sufrir alteraciones]." Castaneda said that the problem of the undocumented Mexicans in the neighboring country to the north ought to be considered "from a humanitarian standpoint."

The foreign secretary denied that the Mexican Army's recent field exercises in the south were intended to intimidate Guatemala. "They were not a threat to that country nor can anyone foresee any action regarding the differences that Mexico has with Guatemala over Belize," he said.

MEXICAN, ECUADOREAN PRESIDENTS DISCUSS EL SALVADOR

PA210457 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0542 GMT 20 Dec 80

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 19 Dec (EFE)--The Mexican and Ecuadorean presidents, Jose Lopez Portillo and Jaime Roldos Aguilera, respectively, condemned here today any foreign intervention in El Salvador.

In their speeches, delivered at the end of a gala dinner hosted by Lopez Portillo in honor of Roldos Aguilera, the chiefs of state pointed out that the Salvadoran people are the only ones who must decide their future.

Lopez Portillo said: "With frankness and cordiality, we wish to express our conviction that the Salvadoran people must freely vote on their destiny, that self-determination is essential for their future well-being and that we firmly condemn any foreign intervention in this conflict." He stressed that "in accordance with the principles that rule its diplomatic tradition, Mexico warns that it will resort to all legal means at its disposal to make the international community guarantee respect for Salvadoran sovereignty in case it were endangered." The Mexican president explained that the conflict in El Salvador might "once again" test "Latin American solidarity," stressing that "we know that the Ecuadorean Government is following with concern the developments taking place in that Central American country."

He recalled that "our collective will has helped preserve the autonomy of the Nicaraguan process and has provided its government with a fraternal solidarity that is completely alien to selfish interests or ideological beliefs." The Mexican president added that solidarity with Nicaragua "tried in the past and is still trying at present to affirm the Latin American peoples' right to choose their own forms of government and development models."

In his impromptu speech, Jaime Roldos Aguilera was emphatic when, in discussing the Salvadoran situation, he said: "Keep foreign hands off of Salvadoran affairs." The visiting president said that Latin American peoples must have concern for what happens in countries like Bolivia and Nicaragua, stressing that the Salvadoran people must solve their own problems without any foreign interference.

COSTA RICA

CARAZO MAKES STATEMENT ON RETURN FROM COLOMBIA

PA192201 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 19 Dec 80

[William Cespedes report from Juan Santamaria Airport--live telephone relay]

[Excerpt] Rodrigo Carazo, president of the republic, has just arrived at Juan Santamaria Airport accompanied by Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte. They came in the Salvadoran presidential plane, the same one that they used to go to Santa Marta, Colombia, where they participated in the events commemorating the 150th anniversary of the death of Simon Bolivar.

President Carazo will now make a statement to the listeners of this station:

[Carazo] I am very pleased to be back. I am hereby asking the representatives of the press and you of Radio Reloj to discuss the various agreements made [in Santa Marta] in order to provide specific reports to the Costa Ricans through you. This meeting will be held here at the airport conference room in a few minutes.

[Question] Mr President, just one question before you address the newsmen: What does it mean for Costa Rica and El Salvador that these two countries were accepted as permanent observers in the Andean Pact?

[Answer] El Salvador was accepted as a participant in the meeting. The countries that were accepted as permanent observers were the Dominican Republic, Costa Rica and Panama.

[Question] What does this mean for our country?

[Answer] I have been fighting for this for many days. Therefore, we now have a greater responsibility and we will have the opportunity to have connections with one of the most active regional groups in Latin America, and we will be not only observers but will have the possibility of more future rapproachments [words indistinct].

EL SALVADOR

DUARTE ANNOUNCES 'FREE ELECTIONS' FOR 1982

PA201800 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1344 GMT 20 Dec 80

[Text] San Jose, 20 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--Jose Napoleon Durate, Christian Democratic president of El Salvador, has said here that the only way to end violence and achieve democracy in his country is by holding a free election.

Duarte, who was elected president through a pact between the armed forces and the Christian Democratic Party, announced that free elections will be held in 1982 when a committee will promulgate a new law and new voting lists "since the current ones were made to rig elections."

The Salvadoran president made those remarks as he returned from Santa Marta, Colombia, where he attended the commemoration of the 150th anniversary of liberator Simon Bolivar's death along with other Latin American presidents and the head of the Spanish Government.

He said that the electoral committee will start working in January and it will have 10 months to come up with laws that will guarantee the participation of "all democratic sectors" in the electoral process.

A constituent assembly will be convened in November or December 1981 to decide on how the presidency of the republic will work and on the holding of elections.

Duarte said that the participation of international organizations from Spanish America, such as the OAS, and from all democratic nations will be requested to oversee and ensure a free election.

He gave assurances that this political project has been endorsed by the United States and all other Western democratic nations.

Comments on Santa Marta Trip

PA201535 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1245 GMT 20 Dec 80

[Communique released by the information office of the Presidency of the Republic on 19 December]

[Excerpts] After landing at the Ilopango Military Airport last night, the president of the republic, Eng Jose Napoleon Duarte, told reporters that he was sincerely pleased with his trip to Colombia which he visited early this week to participate in the meeting commemorating the 150th anniversary of the death of liberator Simon Bolivar.

This trip was truly positive. I have been to the summit of democracy, because the meeting was attended by the democratic presidents of America, such as Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, Panama, Venezuela, Dominican Republic, Costa Rica and El Salvador, as well as the Spanish chief of government.

Napoleon Duarte, who arrived accompanied by his wife and other members of his retinue, was greeted at the airport by the vice president of the revolutionary governing junta and commander in chief of the armed forces, Col Jaime Abdul Gutierrez, and other ranking government and military officials.

President Duarte noted that all the presidents, who attended the meeting in Santa Marta, Colombia agreed to offer the necessary moral support to the Salvadoran Government, and in the declaration signed them, there are paragraphs referring to our country, and these are votes on behalf of peace, freedom, human rights and the free determination of the Salvadoran people.

SPOKESMAN DENIES MAJANO DECLARED DESERTER

PA212139 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1516 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Excerpt] San Salvador, 20 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--Official spokesmen of the Salvadoran presidential house today reiterated a denial of statements attributed to the vice president, Col Jaime Abdul Gutierrez, according to which Colonel Majano has been declared a deserter.

"It is absolutely false that Gutierrez made those statements or that there was a news conference, as certain international news agencies have reported," official government spokesmen affirmed.

SALVADORAN GOVERNMENT FORCES ON 'FULL ALERT'

PA211748 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1710 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Text] San Salvador, 21 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--Official sources have disclosed that the Salvadoran Government forces are on a full alert due to "specific reports that the ultraleft is preparing itself for a final offensive on 26 December." The sources said that the reports, "confirmed by the military intelligence office, were intercepted from abroad."

The opposition Revolutionary Democratic Front [FDR] said this week in Santa Marta, Colombia, that all of its shock troops are ready to launch the final offensive. The FDR said that the leftist offensive would be accompanied by work stoppages and nationwide strikes.

The army sources said that counterinsurgency operations have been stepped up in San Salvador, the outlying towns and other cities in the interior of the country to try to wipe out guerrilla cells and centers "of subversion."

At least 50 presumed guerrillas died during the week in armed clashes with the army, which discovered leftist arsenals, camps and clandestine hospitals in the capital and rural areas in the interior of the country.

In a communique issued over the weekend the army said that "the leftists want to inflate their final offensive through lies and making the national and international public believe that their movement is progressing when in reality it has become weaker."

National Guard Press Release

PA200358 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1827 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Press release by National Guard Press and Public Relations Department in San Salvador on 19 December]

[Text] The National Guard Press and Public Relations Department reports that a security forces patrol traveling to Las Margaritas in Cuscatancingo was attacked by armed men hiding inside two houses along the main street. During the ensuing fighting two terrorists were killed and a Smith and Wesson machinegun, four rifles and two shotguns were seized as well as a large number of handgrenades, military uniforms, first aid supplies and subversive literature and propaganda.

United to the people, the armed forces emphasizes that it will do everything possible to halt violence and attain the climate of peace and democracy which we so badly need.

'Intense Confrontations'

PA191724 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Excerpt] The NEW NICARAGUA NEWS AGENCY reports from San Salvador that intense confrontations between Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] forces and the Salvadoran Army are taking place in the region of Berlin and 5,000 peasants are reported fleeing from the area.

The military operations of the Salvadoran National Guard in the region of Berlin, 113 km east of San Salvador, are meeting with strong resistance from the guerrillas, it was learned in San Salvador. Sources in the area's municipal government reported by telephone that military detachments from San Miguel, Usulutan, San Vicente and Zacatecoluca are participating in the operation. The military detachments have been trying since Tuesday to encircle the guerrillas operating in this area, the sources said.

Due to the intensity of the confrontations, approximately 5,000 peasants have left the region. The majority of the refugees are women, children and elderly people.

FARN Installations Dismantled

PA211259 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 20 Dec 80 p 3

[Text] A harsh blow was dealt to the guerrilla in the east with the dismantling of clandestine hospitals and camps of the Armed Forces of National Resistance (FARN) where explosives and arms were being stored, military sources revealed today on concluding 3-day operations in San Agustin and Berlin cantons, where there were confrontations in which at least 25 extremists were killed.

It was reported today at military detachment No 4 of Usulutan that this action took place after it was learned that many cantons in the eastern part of the country were under the control of the extremists.

The military operations begun on Monday by troops from that detachment ended yesterday afternoon after the Linares, Caolotal, Montanita, La Quesera, Bolivar, El Carmen and other cantons of Berlin and San Agustin were cleared. The military found camps with medicines and surgical materials that are not even available in San Pedro Hospital. According to the reports, arms, ammunition, movie projectors, mimeographs and explosive materials like TNT were found in the rural areas that had been "combed."

The military source said that the FARN extremists had occupied the cantons and that they have now been destabilized by this military operation although they have not been eradicated, since many of them fled to areas with which they are already very familiar. Therefore, the operations will continue.

In addition, some 200 head of cattle were recovered from the area. They belong to small farmers who have fled to Berlin. The livestock was turned over to the civilian authorities of Berlin to be returned to their owners as identified by bills of sale, if purchased, or by registration if they were raised.

Among the weapons that were confiscated were FAL rifles, shotguns, ammunition and other war materiel.

Meanwhile, it was reported that there are some 3000 refugees in Berlin and another 1000 in San Agustin. They had fled from the aforementioned cantons and will not return as yet, because the military operations will continue.

FDR REJECTS DUARTE'S CALL TO HOLD DIALOGUE

PA192031 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] The Salvadoran Revolutionary Democratic Front [FDR] has reiterated its willingness to hold a dialogue with all the honest forces of the country but not with those which daily kill the best sons of the Salvadoran people.

In a communique issued on this, the revolutionary organization said that Jose Napoleon Duarte, president of the genocidal military-Christian Democratic junta, recently expressed his alleged interest in holding talks with the popular forces. Nevertheless, the communique added, 60 Salvadorans are killed daily, victims of the government's repression.

The FDR document added that as authentic genocidal rulers, the leaders of the regime call for negotiations at the same time that they assassinate the main leaders of the patriotic military organizations.

Meanwhile, it has been reported that militias of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front occupied three neighborhoods in the outskirts of San Salvador and urged the residents to join the struggle against the dictatorship. The actions took place in the neighborhoods of Yumuri, Toluca and Miramonte.

'State of Alert' Declared

PA191504 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1928 GMT 18 Dec 80

[By German Acero Espinoza]

[Text] Santa Marta, Colombia, 18 Dec (EFE)--The Revolutionary Democratic Front [FDR], the main opposition force in El Salvador, today declared itself in a virtual state of war aimed at overthrowing the current Christian Democratic-military junta of El Salvador which is headed by Jose Napoleon Duarte.

One of the top members of the FDR, Francisco Diaz, told foreign newsmen at a press conference in Santa Marta that all of the active forces in the country have declared themselves in a "state of alert" to go on a general strike that would paralyze the entire nation.

"The seizure of power is close by," Diaz said, "because the general command and the executive committee of the FDR have called a general military alert and are making the final preparations for the great strike in which all the people, united, will participate."

According to Diaz, the executive committee of the FDR, the five groups that make up the Coordinating Board of the Masses, the Social Democrats, the Social Christian People's Movement, the independent professionals and high school and university students are carrying out this task.

Diaz told the reporters that the latest victims of the war in El Salvador, particularly the children, women and elderly, are "the victims of the frustration and despair of the repressive army, which is being progressively defeated by rebel forces of the Salvadoran people."

The member of the FDR also revealed that the FDR has asked the nine presidents and heads of state who are gathered here for a summit meeting to prevent any U.S. attempt at armed intervention in El Salvador "because this might create an even greater catastrophe, because the people would not accept this."

Diaz said: "We also ask you to listen to the FDR's position of a complete political opening, which seeks a popular and democratic solution for the Salvadoran peoples, without any further bloodshed."

Diaz said that the proposals presented to the presidents at this summit meeting "are strictly confidential," because they represent an immediate solution to the Salvadoran crisis and therefore are restricted to only certain people and, on this occasion, to the heads of state.

Regarding Col Adolfo Majano, who recently left the junta, Diaz said that he "was hounded, little by little, until he left power. That is to say, he was forced, on this occasion, to make a decision and take an openly active stand of opposition to the regime."

He denied that the Cuban Government had any links or participation in the current Salvadoran crisis. He accussed the U.S. Government of giving diplomatic and military aid to the current Salvadoran junta so as to "prepare a large scale intervention."

FMLN ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON PREPARATIONS FOR BATTLE

PA200307 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0118 GMT 20 Dec 80

[Text] San Jose, 19 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--The Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) has issued instructions "to all its military, militia, self-defense and support units to prepare for decisive military actions" in El Salvador, according to a communique released today in this capital.

The FMLN is the armed branch of the leftist Revolutionary Democratic Front (FDR), which considers itself to be a possible alternative to the Salvadoran Government.

The communique states that military actions will be increased throughout the country. "All military and militia units must take up their fighting positions in the neighborhoods, colonies, cantons, guerrilla fronts, highways, towns and mountains," the FMLN communique states.

The communique states that the FMLN is combat-ready and with high morale, it will prepare for the decisive battles while awaiting orders from its general headquarters.

The document is signed by Salvador Cayetano Carpio of the People's Liberation Forces (FPL), Jose Shafick Handal of the Communist Party (PCES), Joaquin Villalobos of the People's Revolutionary Army (ERP), Ferman Cienfuegos of the Armed Forces of National Resistance (FARN) and Roberto Roca of the Revolutionary Party of Central American Workers (PRTC).

The communique adds that the FMLN "presents to the people and all the sectors and organizations that are not members of the FDR a platform of six principles which should serve as a basis for strengthening the united peoples struggle for a revolutionary democratic government."

1. The revolutionary democratic government will guarantee national sovereignty and independence, and it will ensure and defend the Salvadoran people's self-determination.

2. The revolutionary democratic government will guarantee peace, well-being and progress to the Salvadoran people. To achieve this it will carry out political, economic and social reforms, effect the just distribution of wealth, provide culture and ensure good health and the effective exercise by the majorities of their democratic rights.

3. Internationally, the revolutionary democratic government will apply a policy of peace and nonalignment.

4. The revolutionary democratic government will guarantee democratic representation to all the democratic and revolutionary popular sectors that have actively contributed to the overthrow of the military dictatorship.

5. The revolutionary democratic government will create a new-style army made up of the revolutionary people's army and those members of the troops, noncommissioned officers and officers of the present army who are sincere and patriotic and who will be incorporated into the new army.

6. The revolutionary democratic government will support all those private businessmen who cooperate with and promote the country's economic development and the implementation of its program.

Similarly, the FMLN issued a call to the Christian Democratic Union and the Christian Democratic organizations of Latin America "to study and investigate the Salvadoran situation on their own and reach their own conclusions, since the distorted information given to them by Jose Napoleon Duarte (president of the Salvadoran junta) has been utilized by those who cooperate with the fascists within the Christian Democratic movement to misinform and deceive all the supporters of that ideology in Europe and America."

MONSIGNOR RIVERA ASKS PEOPLE TO 'MAKE COMMITMENT'

PA212205 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1939 GMT 21 Dec 80

[By Ricardo Medina Fermin]

[Text] San Salvador, 21 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--Arturo Rivera y Damas, apostolic administrator of San Salvador, today urged the people "to make a commitment during the historic situation that the country is currently experiencing," and he described the government's recent reorganization as a "change of facade."

Regarding the changes in the ruling junta--Col Adolfo Majano was removed and Christian Democrat Jose Napoleon Duarte was appointed president--Monsignor Rivera y Damas commented: "Many people do not identify with the current Salvadoran political process."

"Colonel Majano represented a certain pluralism within the junta. Therefore, his being left out of the junta reduces the possibility of a dialogue with the left," the prelate said, while stressing in his sermon the people's distrust, tiredness and fatigue.

"This apathy is alarming," he said, adding that "the immense majority of Salvadorans are leaving the groups involved in this conflict alone and the country's future is being decided without the people."

In an impromptu news conference held after his sermon, Rivera y Damas told this agency that he contacted Colonel Majano on Tuesday.

Majano has been missing since Monday, after holding a news conference in his home at which he charged the current regime with being an "impostor." According to Rivera y Damas, "Colonel Majano is in the country and he plans to stay in El Salvador."

The apostolic administrator reiterated that the reorganization of the government "has not been a political change but a change of facade." "The structures have not disappeared and we are at a juncture at which there is the danger of having serious accidents," he said.

Rivera y Damas referred to a report supplied to him by the religious group Caritas, which indicates that Salvadoran refugees now total 30,000.

He denounced the raid carried out at the residence of the Jesuit fathers in San Antonio Abad, on the northeastern periphery of San Salvador. According to him, a contingent of army and paramilitary troops arrived at the residence and searched it for 3 hours. According to the prelate, the troops were looking for weapons, but "after turning everything upside down, they took some magazines, alleging that their contents were communist and that the Jesuits are guerrillas."

Asked by newsmen what stand the people must adopt in case a strong armed conflict should develop, Rivera y Damas answered: "The church justifies armed struggle when it understands that it is inevitable, but all peaceful resources have not yet been exhausted in El Salvador." He added that he has read "with pleasure and satisfaction" a UN pronouncement ("urging the Salvadoran Government to guarantee his personal safety). "But so far I have not been (?directly threatened) by anyone," he said in conclusion.

GUATEMALA

PRESIDENT LUCAS TO SCHEDULE ELECTIONS FOR 1981

PA212153 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 10 Dec 80 p 13

[Text] Maj Rolando Archila Marroquin, public relations under secretary of the Presidency, said yesterday that President Fernando Romeo Lucas Garcia will schedule general elections for next year in accordance with the constitution.

The official said that President Lucas has been characterized by faithful compliance with the constitution and his respect for the democratic principles upheld by the Guatemalan people. For this reason, he said, in compliance with article 186 of the constitution, the government will schedule elections for next year within the timeframe stipulated in the constitution.

However, he said that legally registered political parties may begin starting now to select their candidates for president, deputies and, in some cases, mayors. The political campaign will probably go into full swing next year. This is also characteristic of a people who live in a democratic system. President Lucas, he concluded, will relinquish power in 1982 to whoever is elected by the Guatemalan people. The summons to the election will be made at the appropriate time.

AUTHORITIES DENY MAJANO ENTERED COUNTRY

PA192132 Guatemala City Radio Mundial in Spanish 1422 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Distributed by Inter-Central American Radio Organization]

[Text] The Guatemalan Information Ministry announced today that former Salvadoran government junta member Col Adolfo Arnoldo Majano is not in Guatemala. The announcement was made this morning after the immigration authorities checked the entry registries at all border posts and Aurora International Airport. According to reports from El Salvador, Majano has apparently disappeared from his country's political scene and has come to Guatemala.

FIDEL CASTRO READS MAIN REPORT AT PCC CONGRESS

FL171620 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1513 GMT 17 December 80

[Cuban President Fidal Castro's main report to the Second Congress of the Communist Party in Cuba [PCC] held at Havana City's Palace of Convention on 17 December--live]

[Text] Distinguished guests, Comrade Delegates: We are experiencing exceptional and difficult times. No country today is isolated from the rest of the world. No country lives or can live in a glass urn. What a state may do, regardless of its size, can have repercussions for other nations. The importance of each event, each new experience is evident in the presence in this congress of the worthy of over 140 revolutionary, progressive and democratic parties and organizations from all over the world. The strength of a small country like Cuba is not military. It is no... [Castro interrupts himself] This podium should have a raised edge or something; there are so many papers they are about to fall off. [applause]

As I was saying: The strength of a small country such as Cuba is not military, it is not economic--it is moral. The last nation to free itself from Spanish colonialism has been the first in the hemisphere to free itself from Yankee imperialist domination. It has been the first to pave a new road to superior economic and social forms of life. It has been the first to initiate the road to socialism in our continent. Everything in our lives is new. This was not an easy road. We had to face the most powerful imperialist country located just 90 miles off our coast. [We had to face] reactionary ideas that had existed hundreds and even thousands of years: the ferocious hate of the exploiting classes. We had to face isolation, hostility, threats, slanders, the inexorable campaign of those who monopolize a large part of mass information media. We had to meet aggression and even the risk of extermination to forge ahead. We did not always act wisely. Not all decisions were the right ones. It has never been otherwise in any revolutionary process.

But here we are, almost 22 years since 1 January 1959. We have not retreated. We have not made a single concession to imperialism. We have not renounced a single one of our ideas or our revolutionary principles. This political stance--clear, firm, unyielding, heroic and exemplary--characterizes our revolution. Fear or vacillation never spread in the ranks of our people and we have never hesitated in recognizing our own mistakes or errors. Many times this requires more courage than giving up life itself.

The wealth of revolutionary experience and ideas that have come down to us throughout the history of our people and all humanity is our dearest treasure. That wealth must be constantly enriched with practice and example. It is the sacred duty of all revolutionaries. It demands the most rigorous criticism and self-criticism and the most consistent honesty. Will the Cuban experiment be halted? Will imperialism succeed in removing Cuban's example from the face of the earth? Never. [applause]

Now that stormy winds are blowing in the hemisphere and the world, now that reactionary and extreme rightist forces are entrenched in power in the most powerful imperialist country. We simply say: Never. [applause]

Cuba may be physically removed but it will never be subjected to another's will. It will never again be subjugated. It will never surrender. And it is our firmest conviction that our example will be immortal. [applause]

As Marti said: Rather than give up the attempt to make the fatherland free and prosperous, the southern sea will join with the northern sea and a serpent and an eagle's egg will be born. [sentence as heard] [applause] From the times of the Paris commune to the present, true communists have been known for their heroism. No one ever surpassed them throughout history in their capacity for sacrifice, their spirit of solidarity, their giving of themselves, their capacity for renouncement and their determination to die for their cause.

No political idea throughout the process of development of human society ever met with such a degree of disinterested adherence and commitment. The best and purest sentiments of man have manifested themselves throughout the battles to liqudate the thousand-year-old exploitation of man by man. Only the early Christians in the times of imperial and pagan Rome could compare to them. But Marx, Engels and Lenin were not the bearers of mystical ideas. Their self-sacrificing followers did not seek a reward to their sacrifices in another world. It was here on this earth that the destiny of many had to be changed and they were ready to face the most atrocious repression and unhesitatingly give their lives for it, in other words, to give everything in exchange for nothing for themselves and all for everyone else.

It is a cause for indignation to see how in our times the word revolutinary is still sometimes used to refer to people who do not concern themselves in the least with the exploitation of some men by others and the cruel inequality this entails. Sometimes they even support it. The bourgeoisie sometimes calls true reactionaries revolutionaries. We cannot deny that someone who struggles for the independence of his fatherland in a colonialized or neocolonialized country and that someone who fights for the freedom of a tyrannized country is a revolutionary.

But today there is only one superior way to be a revolutionary: to be a communist. [applause] This is because the communist embodies the idea of independence, the idea of freedom and the idea of true justice and equality among men. The communist embodies something further: the idea of internationalism, that is, the brotherhood, solidarity and cooperation among all men and nations in the world. And when the ideas of independence, freedom equality, justice and fraternity among men and nations are joined together, these ideas are invincible. That is what we want to be: communists. That is what we want to go on being: communists. [applause] That is our vanguard, a vanguard of communists. That is our congress, the congress of the communists and a people who support them, a nation of communists. [applause]

No force has existed, exists or will exist in the world to prevent it. That is the first thing that we want to assert, reassert and proclaim in opening our second congress. [prolonged applause]

We hope that this report from the Central Committee to the Second PCC Congress will not take too long although in any event it unfortunately will be and must be long. That is why we will try to be as concise as possible in presenting the balance of the period between 1975 and 1980, what we propose to do and the general outlines of our future national and international policies.

We must begin by saying that in terms of exact figures and dimensions of material production approved in the first congress, the economic plan could not be fulfilled. As early as 28 September 1976 we explained to the nation that in view of the drastic fall in sugar prices, world inflation, the deterioration of trade relations and the aggravation of the international economic crisis, the economic goals set for the 5-year period could not be fulfilled. We told the people the truth with all frankness. We did not achieve the 6-percent annual growth rate we had intended but we achieved two-thirds of that goal.

We cannot in the least disregard the efforts of our working people and our party's militants and their extraordinary achievements in the hard and difficult years that have elapsed from 1975 and 1980. It must be recalled that many capitalist countries--developed and with greater resources--were forced to reduce their rate of growth, produce below the level of previous years and see their inflation, unemployment and economic and social crisis grow at an astonishing rate. We, a socialist country with an underdeveloped economy, have advanced in material production and achieved considerable success in the social sphere during this 5-year period.

The whole experience of this period has been considered in the preparation--with the most realistic criteria possible and on the basis of sure indexes--of the economic directives for the second 5-year period, to overfulfill and not to underfulfill--that is the basic idea, to commit the party to the attainable and not the unattainable, it is a question of responsibility, honor and prestige. It will in no way exonerate us from the duty to do our utmost. We would not be revolutionary or honest if we acted in any other way.

The present 1976-80 5-year period which is about to end has been one of extraordinary progress in the organization of our economy, in the struggle to create the conditions for a more efficient use of our productive resources and also of significant achievements in our economic development and in the aims to further meet the needs of our people, although it has been a period full of many difficulties of an objective nature, both internally and externally, which have prevented us from achieving all what we had set out to do.

When we referred to the prospects for the present 5-year period in our report to the first party congress, we warned that our sugar, with remunerative and satisfactory prices guaranteed by the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, would not enjoy the same situation in the capitalist area and we noted that it was impossible to make definite predictions concerning the way in which our convertible currency income from our main export would evolve. During the first 4 years in the present 5-year period, sugar prices averaged some $0.09 per pound, that is, some $200 per ton--approximatedly 55 percent of the world average of the cost of production. This meant a plunge from the levels that they had reached in the last 2 years of the previous 5-year period when they had averaged $0.30 per pound in 1974 and slightly over $0.21 in 1975, having jumped to $0.63 at certain times.

In contrast with the abrupt drop of the prices of our main export, the prices of our country's imports from the world market continued to climb, in keeping with the uncurbed inflation presently affecting the capitalist world. In 1980 alone, the last year of the 5-year period, sugar prices have gone up but this has not compensated for the first 4 years. This has meant that our trade relations with the capitalist area, the so-called exchange terms, have been reduced by 53 percent between 1975 and 1979. This meant that even with the same physical volume of exports, we have not been able to acquire as many products as we did in 1971-75 on the average.

In these years of capitalist crisis, interest rates on the external debt and the credits we have obtained for the purchase of equipment, complete plants and other goods on the world market have risen extraordinarily. Likewise, freight and rental rates for the ships we must hire to transport our goods have gone up. Added to these difficulties of an external nature were the presence in Cuba of diseases which considerably affected our agricultural-livestock economy. The sugarcane rust that damaged one-third of our crops significantly reduced our sugar production potential in 1980. The blue mold has affected our tobacco crops for 2 years running, first by 25 percent and in the past year almost 90 percent. In addition to these plagues, we had African swine fever in two of the eastern provinces during the first months of this year. Our rapid response to natural calamities which, oddly, occurred simultaneously made it possible for us to control them in a short time with all efficacy.

Despite all the aforementioned, despite the fact that at home we were involved in a gamut of institutional and organizational transformations of a diversity, complexity, depth and magnitude perhaps never before undertaken by our revolution, we have achieved an acceptable and positive economic growth rate if we take into account the situation the whole world is experiencing and the conditions under which underdeveloped, non-oil-exporting countries are laboring.

The average annual growth of the overall social product in these 5 years at constant prices has been 4 percent. It must be pointed out that we not only have obtained this rate of growth, but that we have also achieved improvements in our efficiency in various areas. Work productivity has grown at a rate of 3.4 percent a year and wage expenditures per peso of gross production have been reduced about 2 cents. Likewise, according to preliminary figures, material consumption--the largest component of production consumption--has also been relatively reduced. This reflects greater efficiency in the utilization of raw materials, energy and fuel, although we are far from achieving the efficiency we should and can achieve.

Considerable initial effort has been made in these years to increase our exports and to replace imports, especially those from the capitalist market. The growth of exports in this 5-year period with respect to the previous one has been higher than the growth of imports. The changes in the amounts and structure of our foreign trade, determined by our trade with the CEMA countries, has made it possible to counter to a large extent the harmful effects that the constant fluctuations of world prices and the spurring action of unequal trade, manifest in relations with developed capitalist countries, persistently exert on the economy of the country as on all underdeveloped countries.

In the 5-year period just ending, industrialization came to play the preponderant role in economic development. During these years a greater integration of the economy was promoted and the country's infrastructure was further expanded.

Expenditures in the 1976-80 5-year period amounted to 13.2 billion pesos. This was approximately 75 percent more than in the previous 5-year period, and three times that of 1966-70. Of the total spent, 35 percent went to industry--some 4.57 billion pesos--or three times more than the previous 5-year period and 1 billion pesos more than the total spent in that sector in the 15 years before 1975. Agriculture received 19 percent of expenditures. This figure contrasts with the previous 5-year periods when agriculture received approximately 40 percent of resources while approximately 25 or 30 percent went to industry. This follows from the agreements reached at the first congress concerning an emphasis on the industrialization process during the 1976-80 5-year period. Industrial capacity grew by more than 10 percent and utilization improved in relation to the previous 5-year period, although it has decreased somewhat in recent years.

[Castro pauses, remarking, "There is a paragraph missing here. I want to make this clear." Then he resumes reading the report] Sugar production: In the five harvests of the present 5-year period sugar production showed a 25-percent increase in relation to that of the past 5-year period. In 1979 the harvest produced 7,992,000 tons. It was the second largest harvest in our history.

Industrial capacity increased by more than 10 percent as regards the sugar industry. Utilization improved in relations to the previous 5-year period although it has decreased somewhat in recent years. The average yield was 84.5 percent, as opposed to 82 percent in the previous period. In 1980, petroleum consumption was one gallon per each ton of ground sugarcane. In 1976, it was 2.1 [gallons].

Expenditures in the sugar industry amounted to 968 million pesos, double those of 1966-70, which had been the period of highest expenditures until 1980. More than 40 sugarmills were expanded or renovated. Two new sugarmills began operations this harvest, one in Pinar del Rio and another in Camaguey. There are two nearing completion and the construction of two others was begun in 1980. These are the first sugarmills built in Cuba in the last 50 years and they were designed by Cuban technicians. Approximately 60 percent of their equipment was made in Cuba.

The railway system was improved. A total of 195 diesel locomotives were added. The warehouse network was extended. Four more bulk sugar terminals were put into operation. This made it possible to increase exports through this system by 53 percent. Nine of the 10 plants in the yeast program were completed. A plant to make panels out of bagasse was completed and two more are under construction.

Agricultural yield in sugarcane areas rose from 49,000 arrobas per caballeria in 1971-75 to 60,200 in 1976-80, although the rust affected 30 percent of the sugarcane in 1980 and disrupted the rate of the rise which began in 1973.

Cultivating activities have increased. The area fertilized with nitrogenous products in 1980 was two and a half times that of 1975. Those treated with herbicides increased by more than 40 percent. This year the sugarcane has been given the greatest weeding by hand in the postrevolutionary phase. The sugarcane area has been broadened by about 10,000 caballerias and the irrigated area was doubled to some 34,800 caballerias. Ten new varieties [of sugarcane] were introduced. The sugarcane cultivated with harvester increased from 25 percent in 1975 to 45 percent in 1980. Average productivity of the canecutters increased by 53 arrobas. The number of canecutters was reduced by some 75,000. More than 75 polytechnics with a registration of 45,000 students currently are tied to the sugar industry. Of those, 26 were built in this 5-year period.

Sugar industry-related courses are being taught in four universities. The national center for training sugar industry workers was built in this 5-year period. During 1980, the sugar industry and sugarcane agriculture were integrated and work on the organization of four agroindustrial complexes already is underway. A number of measures were adopted this year aimed at bolstering this important branch of the economy.

Weekly timeoff has been established and night differential payment is being paid in the industry. Wages of workers in sugarmills and sugarcane enterprises have been increased by 15 percent. Seniority payment to the industry workers and harvesters' operators has been implemented. Wages of agricultural workers have been improved. Continued work in harvest tasks and fulfillment of quality standards are being rewarded.

A program to stimulate sugar industry workers will make it possible for them to acquire certain items of great demand. Special work clothes have been designed for the various harvest activities, and the qualtiy of various work tools has been improved. This year the industry was reinforced with 541 university students from the final phases of different specialties. A reserve of equipment and essential tools for solving the problems emerging in the midst of the harvest has been created.

Sugar production will continue to be the pillar of the economy and should attain a level of optimum efficiency. The supply of sugarcane and the industrial capacities will have to be expanded for the 150 days of harvest at all sugarmills. Loss of operational time must be diminished. The recovery rate must be improved. The refining capacities must be increased and the efficiency of existing ones must be improved. Manufacture of sugar industry machinery must be further developed, as well as the byproducts industry. We must struggle to raise the level of yields in sugarcane agriculture and reduce impurities. All types of cultivation improvements must be applied and weeding must be improved. Better use of machinery in cultivation, planting and cutting must be attained. Work productivity must be increased and the number of millionaire brigades [cutting one million arrobas of sugarcane] multiplied. The number of agroindustrial complexes must be gradually developed. Special attention must be given to social problems to improve the quality of services and living conditions of sugar industry communities. In short, organization must be improved and better efficiency achieved.

Livestock-agricultural production, including that of sugarcane, grew at a 3.5 percent annual rate despite having been affected by diseases and adverse weather.

The agricultural area was extended by clearing more than 850,000 hectares. Damming capacity was increased by 2.6 billion cubic meters and the irrigated surface surpassed the 44,700-caballeria mark to more than 63,300 in 1980. The preparation of state land has been totally mechanized, and progress has been made in the mechanization of vegetables.

While there were 54,000 tractors in 1975, now we have 60,000. In 1975, the total amount of fertilizer used was 950,000 tons, now it amounts to 1,574,000 tons. The use of pesticides went from 7,400 tons in 1975 to more than 11,000 in 1980, and herbicides from 11,500 tons to more than 16,000. More than 1,000 construction projects were completed, among them 555 dairy farms for 109,000 cows, 95 breeding centers for 73,000 calves, fattening farms for 160,000 hogs and 61 buildings for poultry.

Production of tubers was about 45 million quintals from 1971 to 1975 and increased to more than 90 million from 1976 to 1980. The production of vegetables in the current 5-year period was 30 percent higher than that of the previous period. The amount of planting area for rice decreased by 20 percent and the yield per caballeria increased by 44 percent, increasing the total production. The tobacco crop decreased as a result of blue mold disease which seriously affected exports. The production of citrus fruits grew by 60 percent compared to the previous 5-year period and amounted to more than 400,000 tons in 1980, of which approximately 200,000 were exported. Seven packinghouses were built and the refrigerating capacities and shipping houses were expanded.

The recovery of the coffee and cacao plantations was initiated. Efforts are being made to improve the plantations. More than 2,000 caballerias of coffee have been planted. The prices for gathering centers were increased by 34 percent and their workers' wages rose by 20 percent. A program of socioeconomic reforms has begun in the producing areas. The last coffee crop amounted to 24,000 tons. The number of head of cattle diminished by 7 percent, mainly due to a 20-percent reduction in the peasant sector. Nevertheless, 55 percent of the herds now are dairy cows. The varieties of pasture land have been improved. The production of hay and fodder has been doubled. Numerous plants for bagasse and molasses have been completed.

Some 2.4 billion liters of fresh milk were produced in the previous 5-year period and more than 3.7 billion have been produced in the current period, a 54 percent increase. Pork increased from 140,000 tons from 1971 to 1975 to 200,000 in the 1976-80 period. Poultry meat production was virtually doubled in this 5-year period. Egg production in 1980 amounts to more than 2.1 billion, 300 million more than in 1975. The average egg-laying rate per hen is 240, more than 4 higher than the 1975 rate.

Some 300 million trees were planted and 340,000 hectares were prepared for forestry production. During the 5-year period, more than 5,600 university students and 15,000 middle level technicians in livestock-agricultural specialties were graduated. Agriculture will develop through substantial improvement of yields, using quality seeds, applying appropriate agricultural technology and increasing the irrigated areas, improving animal feed and sanitary controls of herds, increasing the number of dairy cows, improving the birth rate and reducing the mortality rate of calves, increasing the size of the state's and peasants' herds, applying work norms which will guarantee good use of working hours and implementing the system of payment according to completed fields.

Reforestation must continue and forest and animal protection measures must be augmented.

Basic industry production grew at a 5 percent annual rate. Installed capacity in the electrical industry increased by 1,069 megawatts, which almost doubled that of 1975. Electricity generation grew by 8.7 percent a year, and fuel consumption dropped from 319 grams per kilowatt hour in 1975 to 285 in 1980.

The number of houses with electricity rose from slightly over 70 percent in 1975 to 74 percent in 1980. Per capita consumption of electricity went from 705 kilowatt-hours in 1975 to 1,028 in 1980. Expenditures in the electrical industry grew to 500 million pesos; 11,900 km of lines were laid out and the interconnection of the system with 220,000-volt lines has been concluded. However, high demand is still not adequately met because difficulties persist in the transmission and distribution installations, in the operation of the units, and in the system as a whole, aggravated by the excessive demand for electricity. We must develop a strong campaign and take the measures to reduce this excessive demand. We have decided to increase electricity rates for the state sector where the installation of special meters has been initiated. A new rate for the population was implemented to encourage people to conserve electricity.

In terms of fuel, 5.5 million more tons of petroleum were processed than in the 1971-75 5-year period. Kerosene consumption went up, although there have been difficulties in the distribution. A new factory was completed for the production of ranges. Exploration for petroleum and gas continued, but the deposits found so far are still of little significance. Fertilizer production increased to 4.5 million tons, as compared to 3.3 million in the previous 5-year period. Nitrogen-based fertilizers production tripled. The construction of a complex with a capacity to produce 60,000 tons of paper was begun in Sancti Spiritus. The pulp byproduct will be used by other paper plants. Construction of a cardboard plant in Havana has begun. Plants producing chlorine, industrial gases, glass containers, recapped tires, industrial rubber products and agricultural tires were completed.

Geological investigation spread from 5 percent to 15 percent of the territory. Nickel production levels were the same as in 1971-75. The rehabilitation of the Nicaro and Moa [nickel plants] and the installation of two new plants with a 30,000-ton capacity per year are underway. The ironwork industry grew by 6.7 percent per year. More than 1,000 sugarcane combines have been completed. Steel smelting rose from 1.1 million tons in the previous 5-year period to more than 1.5 million tons in the present one. Production of corrugated steel grew by 60 percent. Bus manufacturing, which amounted to approximately 5,500 units in the previous 5-year period, rose to 9,500 units in these past 5 years. Refrigerator production increased from some 182,000 to 210,000 units. Radio production rose 223,000 to more than 670,000 and television sets, from 25,600 to almost 225,000. Production of electrical wire and cables, storage batteries and agricultural tools has increased. Spare parts production levels almost doubled those of the previous 5-year period. Expenditures amounting to 440 million pesos were made in this area. Among other projects, a rolling mill was completed in Antillana de Acero. The sugarcane combines factory, one for storage batteries, two plants for irrigation elements, one for wheels and a stainless steel foundry were all completed. More than 5,000 workers take courses in the factories themselves, from which 3,389 already have graduated. In 1980, more than 12 million pesos worth of ironwork products were exported.

There is work to be done in future years to conserve energy, increase the utilization of installed capacity, strengthen maintenance and raise technological and operational discipline in the plants, struggle to reduce possible power outages, improve fuel distribution, increase effectiveness in putting the new projects into operation, considerably increase the production of spare parts and increase the production of equipment for entire plants and production lines.

Seven billion pesos worth of construction was carried out in this 5-year period. This was some 2.8 billion more than in 1971-75. While 480 million pesos worth of industrial construction was carried out in the previous 5-year period, more than 1.35 billion was carried out in this 5-year period. More than 300 projects were completed, although there have been delays in implementing some projects.

Hydraulic works increased by more than 29 percent. Work has been done on the construction of 27 dams, of which 24 were completed. Work has also been done on the construction of minidams. On almost 300 hectares, 141 km of master canals and irrigation systems were built, part of which will be put into operation during the coming year. More than 1,000 agricultural-livestock works have been completed. Also, 836 km of embankments for railroad tracks were built, as well as 7,800 km of expressways, highways and roads. Thousands of kilometers of roads including 334 km of the national expressway, have been paved. Work has been carried out in more than 25 airports and airstrips. Maritime workers were double those of the 1971-75 5-year period. Educational capacity has been increased. While facilities for some 180,000 intermediate-level students had been created in the previous 5-year period, facilities for more than 400,000 were created in this 5-year period. Twenty-four child care centers were built in 1971-75; some 200 were completed in 1976-80. Hospital services grew by 3,000 beds with the construction of four hospitals and the expansion of three. Seventy more health facilities were built.

Twenty-two new hotels were built for the tourism industry. The housing program has been one of the most affected. Some 83,000 houses were built by the Ministry of Construction, a similar number to those built in the previous 5-year period.

Hydrology works grew by 60 percent, and 3,360 km of aqueducts and 335 km of sewers were built. Construction abroad in 10 countries rose to 125 million pesos. The current capacity of the materials industry is practically double that in 1975, which has made it possible to increase sales to the population.

Among the new factories there are two cement factories with a joint capacity of almost 3 million tons, 33 sand and gravel plants, two asbestos-cement factories and three for prestressed concrete pipes, two factories for health services equipment and two for glazed tiles.

Cement production in the previous 5-year period totaled 8.2 tons; production in this 5-year period was 13.4 million tons.

Work will have to be done in projects to reduce the consumption of materials, especially imported materials. The volume of ongoing construction must be reduced. We must fight to raise quality and conservation and reduce the time spent in the planning, execution and putting into operation of works.

Transportation activity grew by 31 percent. The total circulation of goods in the country's ports in 1980 amounted to more than 35 million tons--the highest of all times--for a 35 percent growth in relation to 1975. Of that total, foreign trade accounted for 25 million, and coastal trade for 10 million. The national fleet acquired 23 oceangoing ships with a 550,000 ton deadweight capacity in 1975; today we have 815,000. Coastal transportation grew by 10 percent [presumably per year] and went from 87,000 tons of deadweight in 1975 to 128,000 in 1980. Total port and dry goods manipulation grew from an average of 553,000 tons a month in 1975 to 638,000 in 1980. Eighty million pesos were expended in maritime works for this purpose. More than 300,000 square meters of warehouses were built and 74 cold storage plants were put into operation. Railway transportation of cargo increased by 26 percent; transportation of passengers reached 20 million in 1980 for an 82 percent growth in relation to 1975. One hundred two heavy locomotives and 1,870 freight and passenger cars were rebuilt. Trucking went from 7.7 million tons in 1975 to some 15 million in 1980 for an annual growth rate of almost 14 percent. This service acquired 3,987 trucks. In the past 3 years, delays in the loading and unloading of ships, rail cars and trucks linked to port operations increased. This situation has significantly improved in the second half of this year as a result of the organization and mobilization effort carried out. Bus transportation grew in 1980 by 17 percent in relation to 1975.

The service acquired 10,000 units in the present 5-year period. Of these, more than 9,000 were locally manufactured. In 1980, Havana has 2,400 vehicles. In 1975, the city had 1,400. Taxi services have not experienced improvements in this 5-year period. The number of passengers in international flights tripled, having reached 194,000 in 1980. Seven airplanes were added. The Havana and Camaguey airports were remodeled and the Lab Tunas, Bayamo and Manzanillo airports were put into operation.

There was great growth in communications. All provincial capitals, in addition to other cities, can now dial Havana directly. A modern microwave system and radio and television transmitters were installed. Medium wave transmissions increased. They now cover more than 90 percent of the country. Telex service was expanded, 430 km of coaxial cable were installed, international communications were expanded and modernized and new satellite communications channels were set up.

Timetables have not been observed and there has been poor service and violations of operation and maintenance standards in railway transportation. Critical situations have occurred in b s services in Havana, which experienced serious difficulties for several years in the current 5-year period. The adoption of a series of measures has made it possible to make 25,000 trips a day in the last few months of 1980 and the figure is now 29,000, an increase of more than 50 percent in relation to the previous situation. Difficulties encountered in transportation must be overcome since they have made it impossible to make the best use of available resources or to consolidate the effort made in terms of expenditures. Special attention will be necessary to improve efficiency in the service.

In the food industry, production of staple items rose by 14 percent. Production of pasteurized milk, cheese, butter, yogurt, ice cream, flour, pasta and fruit and vegetable preserves has increased. Production of alcoholic beverages grew by 33 percent, and of beer by 15 percent. Production of soda pop in 1980 was 20 percent higher than in previous years. In the meat industry, new types of products have been introduced. This branch encountered difficulties during the 5-year period because of the lack of raw materials and containers and encountered delays in the construction of some new facilities. More than 360 million pesos were spent and two flour mills were completed, as well as six bakeries, four candy factories, six soda pop plants and three canning factories. Several oatmeal and cornflakes plants, two animal meal plants, one glucose factory, and eight pasteurizing plants were also completed. Evaporated milk facilities underwent expansion. Sixteen ice cream plants and the citrus complex on the Isle of Youth were also completed. The quality and appearance of products must be improved, choice must be expanded, optimal use must be made of raw materials, containers must be diversified and their collection increased, and we must work for the integral development of the citrus fruit industry.

Light industry grew by 23 percent. The production of textiles amounted to more than 750 million square meters. During the previous 5-year period it was 600 million. In the area of outer garments, 240 million units were produced, compared to 197 million during the 1971-75 period. In 1980, 21 million pairs of shoes were produced, which is still a relatively low number. In the 1976-1980 period, the production of laundry soap decreased in comparison to the previous 5-year period. However, the production of detergent increased by 19 percent. Toothpaste production increased by 16 percent. The production of corrugated cardboard boxes in 1980 was 60 perdent higher than that of 1975. More than 400 million pesos were invested in this industry. The textile complex, which will produce 60 million square meters, has begun operating in Villa Clara. In 1980, a towel factory which can produce 10 million units and a textile mill which can produce 20 million square meters of fabric for cotton slacks began operating.

Three complexes for the production of school furniture began operating, which almost doubled production. Two new factories for the production of corrugated cardboard boxes began operating, increasing production capacity by 120 million.

Production has been affected by the lack of raw materials, by deterioration of the industry [presumably the equipment], by delayed investments, and by the failure to make demands in the area of quality control. The design and assortment of these items must be improved and diversified. Special attention will have to be paid to work clothes.

In the fishing industry, the final count was some 930,000 tons, which represents a 39-percent increase over the last 5-year period. In 1978, a catch of 213,000 tons was recorded, the highest in our history. The establishment of the 200-mile territorial limit and the cancellation of some fishing agreements limited the possibilities of our fleet on the high seas. During the period from 1976 to 1980, fishing exports amounted to more than 400 million pesos, more than double that of the previous period. More than 600 million pesos were invested and 21 large trawlers, 4 refrigerated transport vessels and a vessel for transporting fuel were added to the oceangoing fleet. The catch capacity of the fleets, especially that of the oceangoing fleet, must be increased. We must take maximum advantage of the continental shelf resources; we must increase the fish catch, processing and collection and improve the supply of fish to the population.

Our foreign trade during this past 5-year period was basically characterized by an improvement in trading terms with socialist countries and by a decrease in our imports from capitalist countries. During the 5-year period a series of measures were adopted aimed at diminishing as much as possible the negative effects of the worldwide economic crisis in our economy. Contributing to this in a decisive way were the agreements reached within the framework of CEMA in the area of credits, prices, coordination of 5-year plans and procurement of raw materials and fuels, among others. Imports in convertible currency were reduced to an absolute minimum and an effort was made, at the same time, to transfer purchases to the socialist countries, which had a favorable effect. In this process, the share of trade with CEMA countries in overall trade, which amounted to 56 percent in 1975, amounted to 78 percent in 1979. For the Soviet Union it went from 48 percent to 67 percent. Foreign trade transactions became more numerous, especially the development of a mentality geared to exports, based on an increase in exports of traditional exports and the addition of many new items, although the effect of the latter on the overall total is still not significant. During this period, trade with developing countries increased, although the amount of this trade is still modest. In the future we must increase exports and guarantee expanded markets and efficient management, thereby improving the quality of products and achieving the adequate incorporation of these goals into our internal economy. We must study in depth the possibilities of adding new products to our market from the socialist area and promote trade relations with developing countries.

International cooperation continued to develop during the 5-year period. Within the framework of CEMA, we have been able to promote, in particular, programs for developing the production of sugar, citrus fruits, nickel, sugar industry machinery, and computer equipment and programs in the area of geological prospecting and the development of science and technology. Cuba has joined the banking system of the council and is participating in various multilateral programs in other member countries. In the bilateral area, the joint commissions are systematically engaged in the implementation of the intergovernmental agreements for carrying out investment projects and other means of economic, scientific and technical cooperation.

During the period, we received soft credits and donations from international governments and organizations. The main beneficiaries of these were in the areas of education and health. In 1980 we received technical assistance from 4,300 experts, primarily from socialist countries, and 11,000 Cubans are rendering such assistance to more than 30 developing countries.

During this 5-year period, we purchased major industrial plants by means of compensation transactions whereby the purchase cost is amortized with part of the production. During the next few years, we will greatly strengthen all forms of multilateral and bilateral cooperation and cooperation with international organizations; we will promote new methods of financing; we will work to improve the process of contracting for and delivering supplies for entire plants; we will take advantage of foreign technical assistance; and we will continue to give our aid to developing countries.

Scientific and technical activity has been carried out at an annual cost of 80 million pesos with the participation of close to 23,000 workers, of whom 5,300 are university graduates. Among the most important results have been the selection of new sugarcane varieties, the acquisition of new pasture land, the development of machinery for the sugar industry, the development of technology which makes it possible to recover more nickel and cobalt, and the development of electronic and computer equipment.

The work carried out to eradicate African swine fever was a success. The National Animal Health Center was inaugurated.

Particularly relevant was the research program of the joint Soviet-Cuban space flight.

The work to establish the national system of standardization, methodology and quality control was begun, and more than 6,000 standards were established.

We will begin building a nuclear research center. We will have to work on the use of solar energy and of other energy sources, on the protection of the environment and on the rational use of natural resources, as well as on the plan to develop science and technology approved jointly with the CEMA countries. In 1980, sales to the population increased by about 20 percent compared to 1975, but the structure of these sales still does not meet needs entirely. In the area of essential foodstuffs, basic levels were maintained for the entire population. Major increases were achieved in the distribution of tubers, which was 59 percent higher in 1980 than in 1975. Eggs, yogurt, butter and other products are not rationed. Various canned goods, cheese, milk and other products are purchased on the parallel market. Difficulties were encountered in the distribution of coffee, rice and cornmeal. This year the free peasant market began operating. There was an increase in the number of those benefiting from socialist food distribution through child care centers and workers and school dining halls. In 1980 the average daily diet contains 2,866 calories and 74.5 grams of protein, which is 244 calories and 3.1 grams higher than in 1975. The distribution of durable consumer goods registered a considerable increase, which was made possible by the increase in the population's purchasing power, by the development of the country's electrification program, by the increase in national production, and by imports from socialist countries, primarily the Soviet Union.

During the previous 5-year period some 460,000 television sets, 160,000 refrigerators, 890,000 radios, 82,000 washers and 28,000 fans were distributed. During the current 5-year period, 770,000 television sets, 420,000 refrigerators, 1,350,000 radios, 465,000 washers and more than 400,000 fans were distributed. This means that between 1975 and 1980, for every 100 homes that have electricity, the ratios increased from 33 to 74 television sets, from 15 to 38 refrigerators, and from 6 to 34 washers. With regard to radios, in 1975 there were 42 per 100 homes, and in 1980 there were 105 per 100 homes--in other words, a little more than one radio per family unit.

There was an improvement in the distribution of industrial products for personal use, such as outer garments for men and women, some hardware items, certain personal items and cleaning and hygiene items. The supply of shoes was inadequate.

Advances have been made in the rendering of personal services, although their quality has not been stable. With regard to the repair of household appliances, material facilities have not kept pace with the increased distribution. During the 5-year period the volume of repairs and maintenance work on dwellings increased. Although it is not adequate, it amounted to 91 million pesos. In addition, during the last 2 years of the 5-year period, sales of construction materials to the population have increased.

We must improve workers dining halls, both with regard to supplies--which were of necessity affected during the 5-year period now coming to a close--as well as with regard to the quality and the preparation of the food and the choices available to the workers.

The growth in the parallel market and in unrationed products should not affect the stipulated consumption. The marketing of uncontrolled products and of those produced by local industries must be promoted, and we must increase sales of construction material to the population and raise the level of housing construction and maintenance. We must improve services in general, improving quality, hygiene and dealings with clients. Health services have increased and improved during the 5-year period. Four hospitals and three expansions were completed; and 3,000 hospital beds were added. In 1980 there is a ratio of 4.9 beds per 1,000 inhabitants. Fifty polyclinics were completed. Regarding new construction and renovations, 25 dental clinics, 17 homes for the elderly and 12 homes for the physically handicapped began operating. Medical visits per inhabitant rose from 4.1 in 1975 to 4.6 in 1980, and dental visits rose from 0.8 to 1. Infant mortality in infants under 1 year of age fell from 27.3 per 1,000 live births in 1975 to 19.3 in 1979. In the 1 to 4 age group it fell by 10 percent. Maternal mortality fell from 68.4 per 100,000 live births to 47.4 in 1979. Life expectancy at birth is more than 74 years for women, and more than 71 years for men and almost 73 years for both sexes, while at the end of the last 5-year period it was 70 years [applause]. These figures compare favorably with those of the most developed countries.

Four thousand six hundred and eighty-eight doctors have graduated; there is 1 doctor for every 626 inhabitants, while in 1975 there was 1 for every 1,000.

One thousand fifty-five dentists graduated, for a ratio of 1 for every 2,600 inhabitants; 8,870 mid-level technicians and 12,641 nurses also graduated. Degrees in nursing began to be awarded. The building of higher institutes of medical sciences was promoted. Medical enrollment rose from 5,973 in 1975 to almost 14,000 in this period. In dentistry, enrollment rose from 862 to more than 2,000. Eight health polytechnical schools were inaugurated and enrollment rose from 13,500 students in 1975 to 19,500 in 1980. The Institute for Health Development was created and the work of the Tropical Medicine Institute was reactivated. This institute is currently carrying out an extremely important and useful task.

Inadequate treatment at hospitals and polyclinics prompted complaints from the population. In recent years and especially in 1980, this situation has been improved by adopting various solutions, including the purchase of additional medical equipment worth several million pesos. Nursing personnel have received encouragement in their work. The value of the production of medications increased from 108 million pesos in 1975 to some 137.3 million in 1980, which covers 81 percent of national consumption. A semisynthetic antibiotics plant and an optical complex are currently being completed, and other investments are being made and planned.

Public health expenditures in 1980 amounted to 445 million pesos, 22 times the amount spent yearly before the revolution. More than 2,500 health workers are providing cooperation to 27 countries. We will continue to improve the quality of medical assistance. We must improve the way in which patients are treated, providing them and their relatives with humane and solidary treatment, and we must incorporate all polyclinics into the program for providing medical assistance to the community. We must optimize the use of existing facilities, improve maintenance, implement and demand compliance with sanitation legislation and carry out a comprehensive educational program.

Educational levels have continued to improve. During the period, 1,293,000 sixth grade students graduated from the national education system, almost twice the number graduating during the previous 5-year period; 575,000 students graduated from secondary school, or 7.2 times as many as during the previous period; 105,000 students graduated from preuniversity schools, or 4.4 times as many during the previous period; 194,000 skilled workers and mid-level technicians graduated, or 5 times as many as during the previous period.

There were 62,700 higher education graduates, or 3 times as many as during the previous period; 77,900 primary school teachers graduated, or 3.6 times as many as in the previous period. Virtually all the students who graduated from sixth grade in the 1979-1980 school year continued their studies.

Twenty-five thousand seven hundred secondary school teachers and 4,800 physical education teachers graduated; 115,000 adults graduated from secondary school; and 41,000 adults graduated from worker-peasant facilities. The Manuel Ascunce Domenech Teacher Training School has already graduated 9,597 teachers.

Enrollment in secondary education has doubled. In Cuba there are close to 16,000 foreigners holding scholarships. Currently, for every 2.83 inhabitants, there is 1 going to school.

More than 970 schools were built at a cost of some 800 million pesos, with a capacity of more than 550,000 students. This includes, among others, 258 secondary schools and preuniversity institutes in the field, 251 urban secondary schools, 150 primary schools, 63 polytechnical schools, 3 schools for Camilitos [students at Camilo Cienfuegos military schools], 4 vocational schools, 6 schools for child care center teachers, and 5 teacher-training schools. Equipment was purchased for 877 laboratories and workshops.

There are 216,900 professors, 51,400 more than when the 5-year period began. All primary school teachers currently teaching hold degrees and 152,407 students are receiving teacher training, of whom 103,131 are workers.

The Ministry of Higher Education was created. There is a network of 39 centers.

From an enrollment of 84,000 students in 1975, we jumped to an enrollment of more than 200,000 in 1980, including some 30,000 students in self-study courses, most of them workers. There were more than 20,000 higher education graduates in the 1979-80 school year, a figure which is higher than the overall university enrollment before the triumph of the revolution.

The child care centers were integrated into the educational system. Installed capacity rose from 47,000 to 87,000 seats. In 1975 hardly more than 2 percent of child care center teachers held degrees; currently 20 percent of these teachers hold degrees. The education budget for 1980 amounted to 1.34 billion pesos, in other words, 137 pesos per inhabitant. This is 16 times greater than the corresponding amount for the year before the triumph of the revolution.

The Che Guevara Internationalist Detachment and the Frank Pais and Augusto Cesar Sandino primary school teacher contingents are teaching in Angola and Nicaragua. Overall, more than 3,500 teachers, professors and educational advisers are rendering internationalist service in 20 countries. [applause]

Our balance sheet in the area of education is encouraging, but there have been difficulties. Problems have arisen with regard to discipline and to the care of social and personal property at some schools, especially boarding schools. We will continue to improve the quality of education and perfecting the links between study and work. Scientific-technical interest clubs and vocational activities will continue to be developed. We will continue to improve the material facilities of schools. We will consolidate improvements in primary and secondary school education. We must improve the quality of higher education. We will promote the goal of getting adolescents, youths and workers to complete the ninth grade. We will continue to promote adult education, the betterment of women, and technical and professional schooling. Education will continue to receive priority among the objectives of our people.

We can derive satisfaction from our achievements in the area of culture. We have experienced a highly creative atmosphere with regard to this important aspect of social work. The incorporation of various institutions into the Ministry of Culture, the work of the UNEAC [National Union of Cuban Writers and Artists], and the consolidation of the social organizations of young artists have made it possible to formulate a coherent cultural policy. The people's cultural councils have been established. These are mechanisms for social coordination and initiative. The people's power has worked energetically to provide various basic installations for cultural work in each municipality. One hundred and seventeen cultural centers are already operating; more than 86,000 activities have been held. Days and weeks devoted to cultural activities have been instituted in the municipalities. The Saturday activities at Cathedral Square [Havana] and the cultural nights on Heredia Street in Santiago are already meaningful events.

In the development of artistic schooling, we have followed the policy of establishing vocational art schools; eight are already being built. We have 16 primary schools, 21 secondary schools and the Higher Institute of Art, with an overall enrollment of more than 5,000 students. The amateur movement has been consolidated. There are currently some 33,000 groups with more than 250,000 members. In 1975 there were 18,000 groups with approximately 200,000 members. Older theatrical groups have stabilized and new, musical and mobile theater groups have been established.

The inauguration of the national theater was a very important event. The prestige of the National Ballet of Cuba has grown. The three festivals organized in our country brought together the most distinguished international personalities in the field of dance. Cuban music had greater impact on young people and the population in general. Eight million records and 2.96 million musical instruments were produced.

The date 20 October was proclaimed the day of Cuban culture. We established the Center of Marti Studies and the center for researching and developing Cuban music.

Laws were promulgated on cultural patrimony, national and local monuments, municipal museums and author's rights. Ninety-one national monuments and 59 local monuments have been declared. The country has 78 museums, more than 40 of which were established during the period. Restoration of the historic wall of Habana Vieja will be started. Progress has been made in the organization of the fundamental areas of artistic production. Progress has been made in the organization of the fundamental areas of artistic and literary production. It is planned to change the traditional concept of the plastic arts to a broader social concept where artistic production is linked to material production.

A total of 5,000 titles were published in more than 200 million copies. The Juan Marinello Publishing Center in Guantanamo began operations with an annual potential capacity of 30 million books. There has been a noteworthy growth in the marketing of books. The average number of books per reader has increased from 4.1 in 1975 to 6 in 1980. Literature for children has increased. A total of 489 titles in 29 million copies were published. The literary shops already have 5,000 members.

The Cuban movie industry produced 36 full length movies, 196 documentaries, 260 news reports and 72 cartoons. Forty-one movie theaters were built. The color laboratory was put into operation.

The House of the Americas has strengthened its well-deserved international prestige. The third Carifesta [Caribbean Arts Festival] was held successfully. Hundreds of Cuban artists have performed in various countries and we have been visited by hundreds of foreign artists.

Two hundred twenty-three prizes and mentions were won at international contests. Of particular importance for the country was the Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra prize awarded to the illustrious Cuban writer, Alejo Carpentier. [applause]

The process of evaluation of this sector was completed. Methods and mechanisms have been improved to promote stable work. Free time should be increasingly better organized. The amateurs movement should continue to be expanded. Artistic fields should be introduced in the education system. The means of cultural information, dissemination and promotion should be used in an increasingly efficient manner. An active and enriching presence of the arts in material production should be facilitated.

Our sports movement continued to advance during this 5-year period. The number of participants in sports activities doubled, while participation in recreational and physical fitness activities also increased. Ninety-four sports installations were built. Seven schools for athletic improvement and five for the training of specialists were inaugurated. Forty-eight thousand mid-level technicians were graduated, as well as the first 663 at the higher level. Sports industry production was in excess of 11 million pesos in 1980.

We maintained our first place in the Central American games and second place in the Pan-American games. In both, we won the highest number of titles in our history in such events. In the Olympic games, we moved from 14th place in 1972 to eighth place in 1976, and to fourth place in Moscow in 1980, although some capitalist sports powers did not attend the latter.

Several Cubans hold Olympic and world records: We are world champions in boxing, baseball and women's volleyball; and we have had meritorious performances in other sports, some of which practically were not known here 10 years ago, such as handball and field hockey. Nevertheless, we have not had the replacements in various sports capable of improving or at least maintaining the positions attained. This was shown at the Moscow games, in which we participated with a marked lack of new athletes, and where the results should have been better in some events. This essentially is due to the fact that a centralized and really massive work method was not developed at all times, and because a certain spirit of championship prevailed which led to placing the desire for victory in each event--regardless of its importance--ahead of the possibility of developing new athletes.

The critical and objective analysis initiated with regard to these problems should lead to rectification of mistakes and improvement of correct methods.

We offer technical assistance in this field to more than 30 countries; about 200 youths from 14 nations are studying in our sports training centers.

The use of sports installations should be intensified and the massive participation of the people should be increased, especially the students, in sports, recreational and physical fitness activities as one of the most adequate ways of using free time. At the same time, this guarantees a strong sports movement.

Tourism accommodation capacities grew to 4,300 rooms--2,800 in new hotels and 1,500 by the refurbishing of villas. Twenty-two hotels were built, of which 21 have been inaugurated. Approximately 340,000 foreign tourists visited the country. This does not include the Cubans living abroad. More than 100,000 tourists came in 1980, or 2.6 times more than 1975. Some 10,000 Cubans visited the socialist countries. Seven million Cubans toured within the country. Services such as camping, guided tours and excursions are being developed. The quality of services should be improved substantially. Utilization of capacities should be increased and tourism offers should be diversified and expanded.

Organization of work experienced a certain stagnation in the first years of this 5-year period, however, 725,000 work standards were established in 1980 and 8 percent more workers are paid according to such standards. A total of 1.2 million workers already receive pay based on production, and an additional half million workers have been included in the premium pay system.

A general wage reform was approved this year which already benefits more than 1 million workers and, when completely implemented, it will represent a pay increase of some 670 million pesos annually.

The reform raises the pay of the workers with the lowest income. Its application depends on improved organization of work and links pay with productivity. To help cover the new expenditures involved in the wage reform, a reform of retail prices is anticipated to compensate for a proportionally smaller share of such expenditures. Other measures will be adopted, including a greater offer of materials and services to the people.

Women's participation in jobs increased from 27 percent in 1975 to 32 percent in 1980. There are nearly 11,000 youths working and being trained in various socialist countries. About 20,000 [Cuban] workers are being used in technical assistance and construction projects overseas.

The government issued a decree on labor rights of internationalist workers. The law which prohibits the creation of new historic wages [pay rates prior to the revolution] was approved. It was decided to gradually establish the system of direct contracting of the labor force. This will be applied in the Havana provinces later. An occupational health and safety law was promulgated. The Institutes of Occupational Safety and Occupational Medicine were created. The social security law was approved. It improves the services and perfects the social assistance system. The number of social security beneficiaries increased by more than 150,000 and it now reaches almost 700,000. To this end, 715 million pesos were assigned in 1980, or 122 million more than in 1975.

In order to recover and strengthen labor discipline, a decree-law was issued granting authority to administrations to impose and apply disciplinary actions. Another decree-law was issued concerning the responsibility and discipline of leaders and officials.

The organization of work should be consolidated. [We must] struggle to increase productivity, improve the function of standards, complete the implementation of the wage reform and control its results, promote the premium pay systems, promote the creation of new useful jobs, be more precise in the number of graduates from the various specialties in accordance with requirements of the economy, and work to fulfill the provisions of occupational health and safety.

An aspect of the economic sector in which we unquestionably have advanced is in the process of the gradual implementation of the economic management and planning system to create the mechanisms which help us to be more efficient, use our resources with better results, and achieve economic awareness among our political and administrative cadres. Important tasks have been carried out in economic planning and the plan has begun to fulfill its role as the leading element in economic activity. There has been progress in the methodological aspect and in the drafting of annual and 5-year plans. Moreover, work is being done on development prospects until the year 2000.

The organization and timetables for drafting the plan have been improved year after year, and there has been greater participation by the enterprises and workers in this process. We have incorporated categories into the plan such as investments, costs, expenditures and profits; work has been done in the planning by sectors and the necessary organizational bases have been created for the development of territorial planning.

The establishment and control of the economic contracting system is being developed, although with difficulties because there has not been total understanding of the importance of contracts for the fulfillment of the plan. The process of drafting and approving these regulations has been slow, and state arbitration organs have been organized on a delayed basis. These organs are an important link to establish economic discipline.

The State Committee for Statistics was created. The national data collection network was organized with offices at all the municipalities. Statistical information systems were developed--national as well as local ones--in addition to complementary ones. We have tried to eliminate unauthorized requests for information and duplication.

Classifiers and codifiers for economic activities were prepared. The inventory and assessment of basic assets were done. Numerous surveys of great importance for economic activity were conducted. We are struggling to achieve greater efficiency and quality in tourist services, and we are working to prepare for the population and housing census to be conducted in 1981.

The State Committee for Finance was created and since 1979 the budget has been prepared down to the municipal level. The organic law on the state's budget was approved. Revenues for the budget coming from enterprises and other sources have been defined. The enterprises draft their financial plans and apply financial standards. A national accounting system and amortization rates have been established; and regulations have been issued on the use of the amortization fund, although we still have work to do on these latter points.

The banking reorganization was implemented and collections and payments among the state agencies were reestablished. A cash plan is being drafted which helps in the planning, control and analysis of the circulation of cash. A short-term loan system to the enterprises has been established, and the national bank controls the salaries and investments funds. A savings bank is being organized to facilitate and encourage the people to save.

The State Committee for Prices was created. Initial work was done to record and systematize prices and tariffs, and surcharge and discount rates were applied thereafter so that commercial enterprises and restaurants could operate under economic estimates.

Regulations were drafted for the planning, estimating and registration of costs, and as a more important matter, a wholesale price reform was applied in the drafting of the 1981 plan. At this time work is being done to adjust retail prices.

The State Committee for Technical and Material Supply was created and this activity was reorganized throughout the country under more rational bases. Work has been done to simplify mechanisms in an attempt to make them more flexible, and [work has been done] to standardize warehouses and preserve products, as well as on inventory and material consumption where still there are delays, unfulfillment and lack of discipline.

Work is being done to recover raw materials and other materials and to eliminate useless inventories. The basic elements are being created to establish and organize the system of state reserves.

Regarding the organization of work and wages, the basic elements also have been established to develop the system. Work also has been done on the plan of incentives which depend on the efficiency of enterprises. The creation and distribution of funds for prizes and for sociocultural activities have been implemented in about 200 [enterprises] on an experimental basis. This system should be expanded to all enterprises during the next 5-year period for the benefit of the workers and the economy as a whole.

The State Committee for Standardization was created and we are providing the basic conditions so as to begin certifying the quality of products in the next 5-year period.

The first Data Processing Institute was created. Progress has been made in the organization of networks that did not exist prior to the development of the already existing ones. Moreover, progress has been made in the use of data processing centers for collective use which provide services to various activities in the provinces. Computation equipment is being gradually furnished to the enterprises. Work is being done to design automated control systems and, to a lesser extent, for technological processes and projects.

The training of cadres and leaders in economic activity has been developed successfully. Some 10,000 economic management cadres have attended the National Economic Management School--recently converted into an institute of higher education--and provincial schools. However, about 30 percent of economic directors and deputy directors of enterprises have not attended these schools. Therefore, the resources of these schools have been underutilized.

The training of economic management cadres at the university level has begun on a regular basis with the 1980-81 school term. Moreover, graduations from the general education system during the current 5-year period will include more than 6,000 higher-level technicians, and more than 18,000 mid-level technicians in the various economics specialties.

The organization of the network of enterprises is being improved gradually. When the system was created there were some 3,500, and currently there are 2,420. Although they have limitations, deficiencies and lack of discipline, and although it is necessary to eliminate these weaknesses, 95 percent of the enterprises are applying the basic elements of economic estimate.

The general regulation for enterprises was approved. It establishes the degree of autonomy and independence they require for their economic work. Nevertheless, complete implementation of this principle still has not been achieved. Dissemination of the system has improved this year, although there still are deficiencies. The basic elements and principal mechanisms of the economic management and planning system were created during this 5-year period. When we decided to implement this system we were aware that the road would be a long one before we could hope to obtain results.

We believe, however, that from the beginning our effort has yielded results of one degree or another. The difficulties encountered were examined at the two plenums organized by the national implementation committee created by the congress. The policy followed has been to seek the most appropriate adaptation of the system to the conditions of each moment and to eliminate mistakes and deficiencies. During the next 5-year period we will work to develop and improve to the maximum all mechanisms of the system. And it is a revolutionary duty and a political duty of everyone--first of all of the party, of the state's central organs and organizations, enterprises, workers, mass organizations, economic and administrative cadres and all leaders of our economy--to struggle consistently and exert their maximum effort so that we can fulfill the purpose and decision of applying the system regardless of current deficiencies.

It is one of our duties to determine constantly how we can strengthen and improve what we are doing so that we can achieve a constant increase in efficiency in the economic work of the enterprises and of the economy as a whole.

In the period between the first congress and this second congress, the revolutionary state has experienced noteworthy progress in institutional matters. On 24 February 1976, anniversary of the 1895 cry for independence, our socialist constitution was promulgated. It was approved by 97.7 percent of the electorate in a plebiscite in which 98 percent of the electorate went to the polls. It was a popular, clean, free and honest decision.

Throughout 1976 the country's political-administrative division was substantially changed. Fourteen provinces and a special municipality directly subordinate to the central government were established. Formerly there were six provinces. [Also established] were 169 municipalities replacing the 407 that existed up to that time. The 58 regions that existed between municipalities and provinces were eliminated.

The new territorial division has helped to bring the leadership levels closer to the grassroots, thereby facilitating management, organization and control tasks of the state, party and the various political and mass organizations. The provinces and municipalities were given a more rational dimension and this has helped to make an important reduction of administrative cadres and employees.

This radical transformation, however, generated numerous difficulties during the entire process of its implementation because it forced the reorganization of all state, political and mass organizations. This altered the regular rate of our work for some time.

The creation of people's government organs throughout the country was made within these new territorial frameworks. The election of delegates and deputies was organized and held and the corresponding assemblies were established. It was the most important step taken by our revolution in the institutionalization process.

By means of the people's government organs, the most appropriate conditions were created for the exercise of socialist democracy, which is the superior form of democracy, by institutionally facilitating the participation of the masses in the government of the society in local as well as in national affairs.

More than 10,000 delegates to people's assemblies of the 169 municipalities, elected under absolutely democratic procedures and constantly subjected to the control of the masses, represent our people in the local governments. They exercise the power to name and replace administrative officials and leaders at municipal activities.

They also make the fundamental decisions on local matters. They also elect, mostly within their own group, the delegates who form the provincial assemblies and the deputies to the National Assembly--the supreme organ of the state.

The local people's government organs are responsible for the principal services activities relating to education, public health, sports, culture, recreation, community services and for the collection of agricultural-livestock products, the retail trade, food for the people, repair services, local transportation and numerous industrial production activities.

These basic institutions of our state have undertaken an intensive economic, administrative and socioeducational effort, giving significant assistance to the government's central organs in such important activities as the sugar harvest, tobacco harvest and investments control. They also are paying increasingly efficient attention to activities under their control.

The delegates have met regularly with their electorate. The assemblies and their executive organs also have held sessions regularly. The delegates to these assemblies have done unselfish and outstanding work in their districts as representatives of the people. They have examined and tried to find solutions to problems raised by the people, although the best response to problems of the people has not always been possible.

The achievements reached by the people's government can be described as a victory of our people and their socialist revolution. They have confirmed the correctness of the decisions adopted by first congress for establishment of the people's government.

Along with the advances made, however, important aspects of the functions of these institutions should be improved. In the next 5-year period, we should work hard to strengthen even more the prestige and authority of our representative institutions and raise the role of delegates and deputies by improving the support they should receive so that they can perform their functions with greater quality.

We should struggle to eliminate the causes which in many cases have turned the rendering-of-accounts meetings into a merely formal activity. We should strengthen the work of local administrations; improve the functions of delegates, assemblies, executive committees and administrative directorates; maintain a constant struggle against the tendency toward bureaucratic distortions, the lack of agility in the solution of problems, paperwork, negligence and indifference to the problems and needs of the people.

The local people's government organs should intensify their demands on administrative dependencies, enterprises and units so that these can work with greater efficiency in providing adequate solutions to the problems raised by the people and give satisfactory explanations when they have no immediate solutions.

In order to conduct government activities according to the constitution and according to the need to follow a guided and planned economic system, the central state administration was reorganized in 1976. It is made up of the Council of Ministers, its executive committee and the central organizations, which were initially 43 in number and were reduced to 35 this January during a second trimming. State arbitration was instituted during the same process and new central organizations were created, such as the state financial, prices, statistics, technical-material supplies, and normalization committees and the computation institute, all of which play a major role in the guided and planned economic system.

The central government institutions have been simplified and perfected. We can work toward the improvement of our central administration with the objective of making the state administration more effective, less bureaucratic and more flexible at all levels. We can study with more technical rigor the organization mechanisms and further spell out the functions and relations between those institutions and the local people's government organs.

The judicial and fiscal bodies also were restructured during this phase, so they would mesh with the new political-administrative division and with the existence of the people's government organs. Several laws were enacted on the operation of those bodies. However, despite these changes, important deficiencies can still be observed in the administration of justice, with regard to both juridical regulations and their practical application. Those deficiencies are now being overcome by the Supreme People's Tribunal and the attorney general's office, but it will also be necessary to review the legislation concerning the judicial system, as well as to study and more precisely outline the activities of the Justice Ministry with regard to the operation of those bodies.

As we said during the main report to the first congress, the force of the constitution compels us to destroy the legality of the society of the exploiters and to build our own legality, the socialist legality. To do that, it is necessary to abolish many anachronistic provisions which were contained in old laws, codes and regulations belonging to a bourgeois society and to replace them with socialist juridical norms.

The prolific legislative work carried out by the National Assembly, the Council of State, the Council of Ministers and its executive committee during the years following the first congress has been a considerable contribution to the development of socialist legality in our country. This work experience suggests the necessity of a legislative plan which establishes a set of priorities for the promulgation of legal provisions in line with the demands of our development.

The draft 1981-85 5-year plan has been worked on for more than 2 and 1/2 years. Its main indicators are the economic and social guidelines which will be considered by this congress. According to the agreements already in effect with the Soviet Union, the GDR, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Vietnam and Mongolia on the coordination of plans--and those which are virtually completed with Romania and in a very advanced stage with Hungary and Poland--trade with these nations will increase by over 30 percent from the past 5 years. The amount of credit extended to us will be twice what we have received during the past 5 years.

These agreements spell out almost 900 export items by name and according to the amount to be received per year, that is, three times the number listed in the past 5 years. Furthermore, we have made careful projections of our relations with the capitalist market, on which our economy is still somewhat dependent.

In summary, we think the plan has a realistic basis. The plan permits us to expect a general economic growth averaging about 5 percent per year for the next 5 years, which will be above the 4 percent achieved during the past 5 years. The plan is marked by a strong exporting tendency and a tendency to find substitutes for imports in order to try to cut back on foreign dependence. The export plan contemplates a growth rate higher than that of the overall social product, while the import plan shows a yearly growth rate which is below the overall growth rate of our economy.

It is expected that the volume of traditional export products will increase and that emphasis will continue to be placed on the development of new export funds. We expect that the specific amount of import funds per peso of [cada peso] production will be reduced by 15 percent during the next 5 years. [as heard]

The plan seeks to give a greater response to the needs of our people, placing emphasis on those needs that have not been met and on solving some economic bottlenecks. Therefore, it is not primarily an investment plan, although investment is growing between 15 and 20 percent and it includes a good number of economic development objectives.

The savings rate, that is, the part of the national income which is earmarked for increasing production and investments, is slightly reduced in comparison to the past 5 years. We will try to finish the investments which are underway rather than make new investments and shorten the construction deadlines and the exploitation of the investment projects. The new investments will be devoted on a priority basis t[illegible] productive industry and, the nonproductive field of housing construction will be emphasized. It is expected that about 200,000 homes will be finished during the next 5 years, which is 2.5 times the number of homes built in the past 5 years.

We will work on about 1,200 investments and listed programs, of which we plan to conclude about 1,000. We are planning to finish about 500 investment projects and industrial programs out of a total of 560. We also are planning to finish more than 250 school projects, 150 health facilities and more than 1,000 agricultural facilities. Twice the amount of funds used from 1976 to 1980 is being earmarked to build storage facilities. Special attention also is being given to building cold storage facilities and the construction of loading and unloading centers in order to try to solve what has been, and still is, a bottleneck in our economy, because we do not have enough room for the proper storage of our products, which often are damaged by being left out in the open.

We are also giving priority attention to works aimed at improving internal transport services in accordance with the resources provided by the ports program.

We have assigned to maintenance more than twice the resources we assigned to it this past five years. We are contemplating a substantial increase in aqueduct and sewage works, giving special attention to the cities of Havana and Santiago de Cuba.

Regarding overseas construction, there are plans for increasing the works that have been carried out during the present 5-year plan. The percentage of workers that will be assigned to this activity will be more than twice the percentage assigned in 1970.

It is expected that the production of sugar will increase between 20 and 25 percent in comparison with the present 5-year period.

An important investment plan will be put into effect in the sugar industry. This plan will permit an increase of between 13 and 15 percent in the grinding of sugar.

In the next 5 years no less than 8 or 9 sugar mills will be built and another group of sugar mills will be completed in the following 5-year period. Sugar production must be higher than the national average of 70,000 arrobas per caballeria and in some provinces the production should be higher than 80 or 90,000 arrobas.

The machine harvesting must be higher than 50 percent. Approximately 20,000 caballerias will be added to the sugar production effort. It is expected that more than 30 percent of the total area will have irrigation systems.

The number of harvesters and tractors will be increased and their length of service will be increased. Approximately 50,000 homes will be built to improve the standard of living of the sugar industry and farmworkers.

The generation of electricity will increase by more than 50 percent and it is expected that an additional 1,000 or 1,200 megawatts will be available. The construction of the Jaraguá electronuclear powerplant and the hydroelectric works there will continue. In spite of this, during this 5-year period there will be difficulties during peak-usage hours. However, it is possible to reduce these difficulties a great deal if energy saving programs are complied with.

It has been decided to install special meters to register the maximum consumption of approximately 5,400 state consumers who use 55 percent of the total energy provided by the national system. By doing this, it will be possible to set up high rates for these large consumers in order to discourage consumption during peak-hours.

The new home electricity rate already established should encourage the people to conserve electricity. To make this easier, the plan has approved the sale of fluorescent bulbs to the population. These bulbs provide better light with less electricity. While right now there are only 18 fluorescent light bulbs for each 100 families, by 1985 it is expected that there will be 250; that is, there will be 2.5 bulbs for each family.

In the area of fuel, a growth of between 10 and 15 percent is expected. The increase in grinding capacity will permit important increases in the national production of oil derivatives, including liquid gas and kerosene for consumption by the population by the end of the 5-year period. The production of finished lubricants will also increase.

Investments in this field will be more than two and a half times what they were during the present 5-year period. Investments will include the completion of the reconstruction and expansion of the Nico Lopez and Hermanos Diaz refineries. Work on the first phase of the new Cienfuegos refinery will be continued and the base for supertankers will be initiated in Matanzas.

Nickel production will be increased with the completion of repairs at the Moa and Nicaro mines and with the initiation of work at the Punta Gorda plant at the end of the 5-year period.

Construction on a new nickel plant in Camariocas will be initiated. An industrial center in Castellanos mine, Pinar del Rio, will also be built for the mining of zinc, lead, pyrites and barites and for the production of sulphuric acid.

In chemistry there are plans for an increase of 30 percent in the production of fertilizers, of 25 percent in pharmaceutical products and of approximately 50 percent in the production of inner tubes and tires. The expansion and modernization of existing factories is being contemplated.

Plans are to more than double the production of liquid chlorine and caustic soda. The production of industrial gases will be increased more than 40 percent. There will be increases in the production of soap, makeup and cosmetics and plans are to greatly increase the production of detergents. There are also plans to construct a liquid detergent plant with a capacity of some 15,000 tons.

The investment program of this branch includes a factory making concentrated insecticide, the beginning of an intermediate resins factory [planta de resinas intermedias] for the production of paints and of resins for artificial wood, as well as the expansion of the saltworks and the modernization of soap and textile printing plants. The salt production increase during the next 5-year period will be more than 50 percent.

The production of bottles will be doubled. The production of paper and cardboard will increase more than 50 percent. Plans are to partially complete a plate-glass factory in Pinar del Rio and to expand the plant in San Jose de las Lajas, to start up the bottle factory in Las Tunas, the paper plant of the Uruguay sugar mill, a new line of toilet paper of Cuban manufacture, the modernization and expansion of the pulp and [word indistinct] paper factory and the startup of the cardboard and paperboard factory in Santa Cruz del Norte.

Plans are to complete the third stage of the expansion of Antillana de Acero as well as the initiation of construction of the integrated steel mill in Holguin. The production of deformed steel bars will be 15 to 20 percent higher than at present. The production of sugar combines will be more than double that of the present 5-year period. The production of automotive and transportation equipment will increase more than 40 percent, especially 11-meter city buses.

The production of batteries will be more than doubled and the production of irrigation equipment will be gradually increased in the factories of Manzanillo and Cienfuegos.

There are plans for an increase in the production of spare parts based on a better use of the existing capabilities as well as the utilization of some new capabilities that are now being exploited. A factory to produce disks for harrows and plows will be put into operation, as will the Martyrs of 26 July agricultural tools factory, the factory for sugarcane trailers, plants for the repair of diesel and gasoline engines and others.

There are plans to develop the production of entire pieces of equipment and plants, with an eye to replacing imports and to make exports. Plans include the construction of railroad passenger cars. The production of television sets will be increased, with the production of color tv sets to be introduced, as well as radio receivers and production of drycell batteries. All of these will be more than doubled.

The production of kerosene stoves and spare parts for them is also increasing. The production of textile products will be increased by 50 to 60 percent. The weaving facility of (Balanje) will be put into operation with an annual capacity of 15,000 tons, as will the textile combine at Santiago de Cuba, with a capacity of 80 million meters per year.

A program of modernization of the existing tanneries and shoe factories will be carried out, as well as other investments that will make it possible to create the bases for improving the quality, durability and comfort of shoes and to diversify the stock. There are plans to substantially increase the production of mattresses, cushions and furniture for the home.

The production of cement will reach over 4.5 million tons in 1985, which will make it possible to meet domestic needs and increase exports. The production of gravel and sand will increase by 14 and 40 percent, respectively, in comparison with the present 5-year period. To guarantee the housing plan for the coming decade, there are plans to build 50 plants for prefabricated units, of which 35 will be completed in this 5-year period. Investments in the construction materials industry are also directed toward solving the deficit in installation and finishing materials.

Production in the area of foodstuffs will be increased at an average annual rate of between 4 and 4.5 percent. The production of meat products will increase by over 20 percent over the 1980 level, with improvements in the structure of the canned food industry.

The production of canned fruits and vegetables will be almost doubled. In this area, a basic role is played by an increase in the industrial processing of citrus fruits.

There will be a significant increase in the production of alcoholic beverages. The soft drink industry will increase by over 50 percent over the present 5-year period. There will also be an increase in the production of beer, with emphasis placed on improvement of quality. The five existing factories will be modernized. A new brewery will be built in Camaguey and in the latter part of the 5-year period, another will be initiated, to go into operation in the 1986-90 period. Plans include the installation of five lines [cinco lineas] and four new soft drink factories as well as two new mineral water plants.

In the production of tobacco and cigarettes, a process of recovery is foreseen after the negative effects of the blue mold are overcome.

In the fishing industry, a growth of approximately 10 percent annually in gross catch, in comparison with that of the present 5-year period, is foreseen, as well as an important growth of fish breeding including the construction of 10 (?hatcheries) and over 20 stocking centers.

In the agriculture and livestock sector, plans include important increases in the production of coffee, tobacco, citrus and other fruits, grains and above all, tubers and other vegetables.

The construction of 33 dams has been programmed, as well as other hydraulic works. The area under irrigation in 1985, excluding cane fields, is expected to be higher than that of 1980 by some 18,000 or 19,000 caballerias. The number of tractors will increase significantly. The use of fertilizer in 1985 is expected to be 40-percent higher than that of 1980. Three thousand five hundred km of rural highways will be built and over 30,000 housing units will be built for farm workers.

It has been decided that all state farming enterprises, including sugarcane and cattle enterprises, will produce tubers and other vegetables in addition to their usual crops for those in charge of these enterprises and for consumption by the families of the farm and sugar workers.

In addition, there will be complementary contributions by the open peasant market. The production of citrus fruits should be approximately 2 and a half times that of the present 5-year period. Milk production is expected to show an increase of more than 30 percent over the 1976-80 period. Production of meat will grow steadily during the period, including beef, pork and poultry.

In the production of eggs, the high levels already achieved will be increased. It has been decided to develop the production of grain, primarily beans, with an eye toward replacing imports and satisfaction of the people's needs.

There are plans to improve railroad passenger transportation. The completion of the central railroad is planned, as well as the initiation of construction of new railroads, stations and the main secondary railways.

For transportation of urban passengers, over 2,500 buses will be added in the 5-year period to provide a basic response to the needs of the city of Havana. The other cities will receive over 4,000 Giron buses and some of the buses that are presently operating in Havana.

The incorporation of 13,000 cars into taxi service is foreseen. The air fleet will be increased by 16 long- and medium-range airplanes. The participation of the maritime fleet in the country's transportation system will increase with the acquisition of over 30 ships. Construction of over 250 km of national highway is planned, as well as the construction of over 600 km of other highways, in addition to the reconstruction of another 1000 km of highway.

Telephone lines will be increased by some 84,000 and there are plans to subsequently exploit the coaxial cable in stages and complete it by the year 1985, in addition to the installation of a national automatic dialing system.

The people's standard of living will experience a sustained improvement with emphasis on personal consumption, which will grow by more than 4 percent yearly. Social consumption will grow by approximately 3 percent yearly.

Real per capita income in 1985 will be some 15 to 20 percent higher than at present. In food, there is expected to be a daily consumption rate of 3,155 calories with 81.7 grams of protein per inhabitant. Production of tubers and other vegetables will increase to the level of 250 to 300 pounds per capita per year. There will be important increases in other basic foods, although the increases will be more moderate.

There are also plans to improve supplies for public food programs, giving primary importance to the improvement of workers' dining halls, the servicing of which has deteriorated in the past few years.

The total supply of woven fabrics will increase by approximately 3 percent per year and there will be two and a half times as many towels available as at present.

The availability of work clothes will increase and the quality of shoes will improve, which will also modestly increase in accordance with funding possibilities.

The plan has taken resources into consideration that will give an important reply to the need for work protection and hygiene articles.

As far as home electrical appliances and other durable goods, large numbers of television sets, refrigerators, radios, washers, fans and, for the first time, air conditioning equipment will be put on sale.

A plant will be installed for reactivating 50,000 television tubes a year. Some 30,000 cars will be imported, twice as many as during this 5-year period, to be distributed as directed and some 60,000 motorcycles for the people.

Over 1 million stoves--mostly kerosene--will be produced during this 5-year period and funds will be invested to ensure repairs to those already existing. Availability of home fuel will be increased and transport and [word indistinct] funds have been assigned to improve their distribution. In addition, there are plans to continue developing the parallel market in a series of products, both in the food and industrial lines, for the purpose of progressively reducing rationing and increasingly freely offering products to the people without jeopardy to lower income families.

We are currently studying a modification of retail prices which would be based on the reduction in price of products of capital importance such as medicine, and the increase of others, whose cost has increased considerably.

Although as a whole the price reform will imply an increase in the expenses of the population, this will be substantially lower than the increase of income derived from the wage reform and the payment of premiums to the workers, which are already in the process of being applied.

Also under consideration is a system of taxes on the income of peasants, which will make it possible for them, like the rest of our people, to contribute to the development of our economy and the maintenance of such important services as health and education.

It is believed that the taxes to be paid by cooperatives will be lower than the taxes for the individual peasant. There will also be important improvements in public health with regard to the present situation.

The rate of medical assistance for every 1,000 inhabitants will increase from 4.9 to 5.2. There will be 1 doctor for every 440 inhabitants, while today, there is 1 for every 626; and dentists will go from 1 for every 2,600 inhabitants to 1 for every 1,900. Towards this end, some 10 hospitals will be completed, 80 polyclinics and twice the number of homes for the aged that were completed in the 5-year period now ending.

In education in the next 5-year period, there will be a change in the structure of enrollment due to the modification in the age pyramid and educational development. Therefore the increase of capabilities will be oriented toward responding to this situation, improving the index of availability at all educational levels.

Regarding infants, if in 1980 there is room for 110 children out of every 1,000 children up to 4 years of age, in 1985 there will be room for 120.

In primary semi-boarding schools, for every 1,000 children between 6 and 11, it will go from 208 in 1980 to some 300 in 1985.

In middle education boarding schools, for every 1,000 adolescents and youths between 12 and 17 years, it will go from 357 this year to more than 400 in 1985.

The index of students in higher education will go from 34 students for every 1,000 inhabitants over 17 to some 39 in 1985.

Brigades will be organized with the capacity for repairing 100 secondary schools per year.

The cultural and recreational activities of the population will continue to advance. There are plans for the construction of 40 new movie theaters and the reconstruction of several theaters. Thirteen hotels will be completed and the existing installations will be repaired and modernized with an increase of nearly 6,000 rooms.

As we have seen, the plan proposed, although modest in its intents, purports important improvements in the standard of living and is also an important development in our economy because, to achieve a 5 percent average annual growth under present world conditions, in the midst of the crisis the world economy is facing, in the situation of an underdeveloped country such as ours, subjected to a blockade and U.S. imperialist aggression, will doubtless represent a great success. And our duty is to dedicate ourselves to the task of every effort in our hands to turn into reality the economic and social plans that will be discussed in this congress and the plans outlined in the 5-year plan.

Many necessities, many desires, many ambitions are not outlined in this plan. In our aspiration to resolve the problems of the people, we always have a tendency to be idealistic, to be impatient to give the quickest possible reply to all their needs.

However, it is necessary to be realistic and to be aware of our possibilities, and our people understand it when we explain to them the reasons and the factors that limit us and block us from achieving what we want to within a given period.

We must work to accomplish this plan, which is based on our most immediate possibilities and which definitely gives a positive reply to the demands and most essential needs of the population. And at the same time, we must work for future solutions which we cannot give nor execute in the next 5 years. [applause]

The podium is fixed. [laughter] The carpenters did an excellent job in a few minutes. Everything has a solution. [applause]

Comrades, the first steps to draft what has been called the strategy for the economic and social development up to the year 2000 were taken more than 2 years ago. Since the average life expectancy has increased, one must not be scared of the year 2000. Hundreds of experts and leaders of all the organizations have participated in this work. They have made a great effort and this has permitted the outlining of certain groundworks and goals for the future development of the country. These studies are in their early stages. We will work on them in the next few years so that the next 5-year plan will be drafted based on this long-term perspective.

The main goal of the country's economic and social development is to culminate in the building of the technical and material basis of socialism through a socialist industrialization; sustained increase in efficiency of social production; the progressive evolution of the economy toward a rational structure of production that make possible a relatively high and sustained growth; development of specialization, cooperation and economic integration nationally as well as internationally; increased satisfaction of the material and spiritual needs of the people and the integral human training. A gradual approach to the level of development of the European CEMA member countries must be promoted in this manner. The sugar, mining, metallurgical, mechanical, electronic and chemical industries and the sectors which produce consumer goods must be considered the main leaders in the preferential development of the industrial sector.

In the sugar industry, we must guarantee the continued growth of our main export and promote the diversification and expansion of sugarcane byproducts.

In the mining and metallurgical industry, we must promote a more effective extraction of the valuable metals contained in the existing mineral deposits based on technologies which are energy efficient and on increased integration with the mechanical industry through the highest production of steel.

The mechanical and electronic industries will have to ensure an efficient output to meet the needs for machinery, equipment and spare parts demanded by the industrialization process combining the country's needs with the possibilities for exports.

The development of the chemical industry must combine the alternatives of production of sugarcane byproducts with those which can be obtained from national resources with low-energy consumption.

Regarding the industries which produce consumer goods, particularly the food and light industries, we must align their development with the needs of the people and the expansion of exportable funds, thus promoting the development of local industry.

Farm production must be maintained as one of the most important elements of our economy. For this reason, it is required that it grow at higher and more sustainable levels than those reached so far. This goal must be based on an increase in farm and cattle production through a more rational use of land, water and the assigned resources, the rotation of crops, the development of a program for animal nutrition, the development of animal and plant health and the intensification of the process of cooperatives already underway.

The other sectors of production which render productive services, such as transportation, communications and trade, must reach levels of activity which guarantee the development of production, circulation and consumption of goods needed by the country's economy.

The industrialization of our country also calls for an increase in the level of interrelation among the branches of the national economy in order to form great productive complexes to permit the maximum use of available resources. The possibility for the integration of three great interrelated productive complexes is foreseen in the near future. They are the sugar agro-industrial complex, the agro-industrial food complex and the mining, metallurgic and mechanical complex. The country must devote large resources to face an increasingly complex process of investment as an indispensable condition for economic development. This calls for an expansion of the industry that produces machinery and equipment, an increase in the construction capacity of the industry of construction materials, the development of the national planning base as well as the reaching of high levels of organization, planning, direction and implementation of the investment process on a new scale superior to the one we have today.

Regarding the energy field, we must continue to implement a very efficient policy of savings, to increase the electrification of the economy, basically by implementing nuclear powerplants, and to promote the use of our own energy resources, particularly the renewable resources and the nonconventional sources.

The knowledge and the efficient use and protection of the natural resources are essential factors to increase the national base of raw materials. Our country does not have abundant resources. Some of them will tend to be completely used up by the end of this century. Therefore, the soil, the forest, the hydraulic potential, the marine platform and the mineral reserves must be seen as resources of high strategic value.

Scientific and technical progress must be closely linked to the main guidelines of production. Standardization metrology, quality control and the strengthening of apparatuses for the design of new technologies--this country was an example of a bad design [laughter]--will play an important part in the reaching of this goal.

The mechanism for planning and directing the activities of science and technology must be improved, especially regarding the introduction of scientific and technological advances into production.

The natural resources which will be available to us over the next 20 years will be one of the most important factors of our economic and social development. To take fullest advantage of them we are going to need an adequate selection of technology, so that whenever necessary advanced techniques are introduced, other less costly techniques and more labor will be used whenever it is possible and logical to offset them.

The training of technicians and specialists must be closely related to the quantity and structure of specialties and the requirements of this process for the utilization of the labor resources while at the same time taking into consideration the requirements for technical assistance of other underdeveloped countries to which our country can offer its cooperation.

The rational growth of consumption by the population in volume, quality and variety must be considered as a permanent principal task in order to satisfy the fundamental social necessities, to ensure the development of the socialist way of living and to promote the realization of the principle of distribution according to the quantity and quality of work.

The increase in the consumption of food, durable goods and other industrial goods must be satisfied progressively based on the national production.

Special attention must be given to the development of the individual as a whole creating the propicious material conditions for the development of their creative spirit in cultural, artistic, scientific and educational improvement activities for their massive participation in sports, physical culture and national tourism, aimed principally at satisfying rest and recreation. Therefore, free time must be increased and its rational use improved.

To satisfy the housing needs, which requires integral development that takes into consideration basically the realization of a strong and sustained construction process, a type of housing must be selected according to the characteristics of the family nucleus rather than according to its construction and the expansion of the community services.

During this period, public health must be consolidated and must surpass the level attained. Outpatient consultations and housecalls must continue to increase the number of consultations per person thereby intensifying the activities of preventive medicine. Similar efforts must be made in dental [estomatologica] attention.

In the development of inpatient care, the number of beds per person must continue to increase. A qualitative change is being considered in emergency care by improving its organization, speed and quality. Specialized medical care for workers will be increased, as will social assistance for old and handicapped persons. Hygiene must continue to improve together with epidemiology, paying special attention to the elimination of environmental pollution, being on guard to eliminate the risks for the population, especially in industrial zones.

During the period in question, the education system must fundamentally work for internal improvement in order to consolidate the position attained and simultaneously develop the capacities to educate and improve the qualified labor force at the higher and middle levels.

The territorial distribution of the productive forces must have as an objective a profound transformation of the territorial structures with an efficient distribution of the productive activities, a more rational and complete utilization of the natural and human resources, a better balanced and faster development of the most backward provinces and a progressive integration of the living standard of the various regions of the country, the adoption of measures and orientation of internal migrations and the consistent structuring of the urban system.

Our economy's foreign relations must be converted into a factor for the stimulation of development, promoting the growth of traditional exports and accelerating the start of the nontraditional exports of products with a greater added value. Exports must increase and surpass the dynamics of imports.

The attainment of these objectives must be based on broad, international cooperation whose principal direction will be the intensification of economic, scientific and technical integration in the framework of the CEMA, especially with the Soviet Union, as well as an active participation in the specialization and cooperation of production and the deepening of economic relations with other underdeveloped countries, particularly with those of Latin America and the Caribbean, taking into consideration the positive tendency of national recovery of natural resources, which creates possibilities for Cuba's participation in the commercial and economic unions which are being established in this region.

In the next few years we should complete the work of the prospects up to the year 2000, for which there are plans to draft, with the help of the other socialist countries, a general scheme of economic and social development which will permit us to define the most adequate path for long-range development, to structure the plans and specific measures to ensure its attainment and to define the principal directions of our country's participation in the international socialist division of work.

The drafting of this scheme will require a considerable effort and coordinated and close work among all entities in the country, the best organization and the strictest discipline. Its successful completion should enable the country to be provided with a panorama of the prospects to work for, a long-range economic program to become a work banner for the party, the government and all the people.

In the framework of this program, we have tried to shape our 5-year plan as the specific expression of the goals to be attained and whose fulfillment will constitute the principal task of everyone in the economic field.

We must now discuss the work accomplished by the FAR. Our duty under the tense prevailing circumstances consists above all in examining the progress made in the military area with the perspective of determining the policy to be followed and to establish the specific measures which we are obliged to adopt for the strengthening of the defensive capability of the country.

During the last few years we have developed the organic improvement of our armed forces as planned. This has permitted a decrease in the number of posts in the organs of management and security, simplifying their structure and the exercise of command. All of this has created more favorable conditions for strategic deployment in the defense of the national territory. Of special importance has been the participation of the organizations of the central administration of the state and of local organs of people's government in the tasks of defense, whose links to the FAR must be systematized and the preparation of the national economy and the country as a whole must be made viable for the war of all the people.

Therefore, the FAR must continue to elevate its preparedness to mobilize and to fight, to complete and to consolidate its structures at all levels and to pay special attention to the most complete training in armaments and existing technology or that which may be received.

The preparation of the commanding officers and general staffs must also continue to be increased in step with the advances of contemporary military science and to improve the military preparedness.

In line with the exigencies proposed by the first congress, we have proceeded with the new recruitment policy, as a result of which young people with increasing cultural level and better training in every way have been progressively incorporated into active military service. This policy must be consolidated in the future, stabilizing the draft age at 18 or 19 so that the young people will complete the middle level of higher education and attain the physical and psychological maturity which will help them to fulfill their service.

A system has been created to articulate the recruitment of graduates from the technological and preuniversity institutes with the fulfillment of active military service and their subsequent return to higher education.

This system permits the use of the reduction by up to a year of service time in many cases as an incentive and permits the possibility of higher civilian studies. This has greatly contributed to improving the preparation of soldiers and allowed the universities to have young people with more integral training achieved during their military service.

The Patriotic Military Education Society was created with those aims in mind. It is called upon to contribute to the training of the new generations so they can join the ranks and to educate children and young people in our people's combative tradition and in the love of the FAR through the practice of sports in the military and the increase of patriotic military activities.

During the next 5 years it is necessary to continue giving priority to the training of reservists through a plan which, keeping the same number of reservists to be trained, will try to improve their quality by concentrating efforts on the individuals training of officers, sergeants, junior specialists and other specialists who are scarce. This requires practicing a policy of incorporation of skilled personnel into the units so that the majority of our workers will be appropriately trained and so that it can be guaranteed that the critically needed personnel will be retained in their positions so that production tasks and services can continue under special circumstances.

It is also necessary during the next few years to consolidate the military registration process at all job sites in the country and the registration of economic means and equipment, the technical level of which must be increased. This is a social need both for the military preparedness of the FAR and for the better control [words indistinct] have obtained doctoral degrees in military, technical and social sciences. Others are receiving training for that.

The first party congress advocated the progressive improvement of the standard of living and working conditions of the officers and enlisted men, bearing in mind the complex tasks and missions they perform and the social prestige of their work. Despite the attention paid to this task and the progress made in this regard, we are still far from meeting, as we would like, the housing needs for thousands of men who selflessly and oftentimes dangerously, away from their families for months and even years at a time when they are involved in internationalist missions, work with great enthusiasm to ensure the defense of the nation and the creative work of our people and who, with exemplary self-denial and readiness to sacrifice, permit themselves to perform the sacred duties of solidarity of our revolution.

The influence of the organizational and ideological work done by the party organizations and bodies, and the political work performed by the chiefs, political workers and officers stand out in all the FAR activities. The party organizations and bodies have adapted the work procedures and practices to the specific conditions of military life, improving the effectiveness of the party's work in educating cadre and combatants, ensuring the successful performance of unit missions, and strengthening discipline and a single chain of command.

The degree attained in the Marxist-Leninist training of the officers, in the study of social sciences in the military training centers and in the political preparation of the combatants and civilian workers stand out in the overall, effective political and party work performed in the FAR. Three levels of party education have been established for the internal training of the militants. Through them the systematic mass incorporation of party militants and those who want to wed the party to the study of Marxism-Leninism has been promoted. The sustained effort of the political organizations, the party organizations and all its militants to improve their political-ideological training and that of all personnel has yielded great results and deserves to be commended.

The Youth Labor Army [EJT] has become a training ground in which thousands of young people are trained in everyday work under difficult conditions and it continues to make an important contribution to the national economy, in addition to the fact that it is organized as a military force. During the past 5 years, the EJT combatants cut 3 billion arrobas of cane, about 20 percent of the total cane cut by hand in the nation. As a result of a powerful millionaire cutters drive, 172 harvest heroes have come from its ranks.

In construction, the EJT has turned over 58 projects, mostly schools worth around 60 million pesos, and it has participated prominently in building the central railroad, on which its forces have laid 422 km of track.

The present development of our armed forces, its excellent and modern equipment, would not have been possible without the extraordinary help received from the USSR which, since the difficult days of Playa Giron, has been generously supplying us with the combat techniques for our defense, and whose specialists--devoted, exemplary, modest and efficient--have worked side by side with us during 20 years. [applause]

It is up to us to increase our defense capability and to be ready not just for action by our regular troops, but for the struggle of our entire nation. A task of vital importance which is already underway and to which our party, the state and the political and mass organizations must attach the highest priority for the defense of the nation--because it is an unmistakeable complement of our defense system--is the creation of the territorial troop militias which, along with the regular units and the reserves, will compose the big popular army of our revolution as announced on 1 May 1980 in view of the Yankee threats and military maneuvers near Cuba. The welcome that the mass of our people has given to this idea again denotes their high patriotic and revolutionary awareness, the best expression of which is precisely the willingness to train to defend the sovereignty of the nation and the work of socialism at whatever cost. Today millions of men and women are claiming this right and are thus showing their firm political convictions.

Of course, our weapons stocks are limited, but we will not rest until every Cuban--willing to defend, inch by inch and house by house, his neighborhood, his municipality, his job site, every square inch of the nation--can have a rifle, a grenade [applause] or a mine and be well prepared to do his sacred duty of defending the nation to the last drop of blood.

To the idea of the territorial militias one must add the principle that every Cuban patriot, male or female of whatever age, under whatever circumstances, even if part of the territory is occupied through an imperialist act of aggression, must be ready to fight and kill enemies in an all-out war. [applause]

Our fatherland must be a very hard bone to chew to the teeth of Yankee imperialism, one that will mortally stick in its throat if it tries to attack us [lengthy applause and chanting: "Fidel, for sure, hit the Yankees hard."]

It is impossible to recount the work of our armed forces over these 5 years without mentioning the quick, resolute and brilliant accomplishment of the internationalist aid missions that the party to entrusted them in Angola and Ethiopia. [applause]

Thousands of kilometers from their fatherland, without any hesitation, our troops--which included a large percentage of our worker reservists--along with the heroic Angolan and Ethiopian fighters, confronted and defeated the aggressors who, at the service of imperialism, were threatening the integrity, independence and revolution of these two brother African peoples. [applause]

This occurred for the first time in history. One of the nations that was founded in our hemisphere--partly with the blood of hundreds of thousands of slaves cruelly snatched from Africa by rapacious colonialism--was sending thousands of its children to fight alongside people defending liberty and dignity in Africa. [applause]

Imperialism and international reaction slandered our country furiously for this act of solidarity. On the other hand we are satisfied that the peoples of Angola and Ethiopia and all revolutionary and progressive forces find this noble and disinterested gesture of Cuba extremely valuable. It was a brilliant and beautiful page of internationalism already in the history of the revolutionary movement.

We Cuban revolutionaries do not like to talk--and we do so very unwillingly--about solidarity with other peoples or revolutionary movements because this simply constitutes a duty of our internationalist conscience. [applause]

However, on an occasion such as this it is also fair to honor the men who sacrificed themselves and give their lives, far from home, for the noble cause of freedom, [applause] for the noble cause of freedom, justice and human dignity, as well as to express our deepest recognition of and affection for the many thousands of compatriots who, thousands of miles from Cuba, are on guard along with their Angolan and Ethiopian brothers, in the trenches of southern Angola, in the Ogaden or other places, and likewise those who, in other countries, are cooperating in the defense and training of their armed forces. [applause]

This was possible, but not without great effort. Therefore, we must also express gratitude and recognition to the chiefs, officers, political organ and organizations of the party, general staffs and combatants who, with the renewed effort demanded by the absence of thousands of command cadres and specialists, succeeded in increasing the combat capacity and assimilating new types of weapons and technology with which the firepower and capability of our troops has increased markedly.

Taking into consideration the initial troops and the successive replacements, over 100,000 Cubans have served in Angola and Ethiopia through the Revolutionary Armed Forces. [applause]

We are stronger militarily today. And a nation whose children are capable of fighting and even of offering their lives in any corner of the world and who will not hesitate to offer them a thousand times for the country of their birth, can never be defeated. [rhythmic applause] The gallant combatants of our Revolutionary Armed Forces deserve the respect, recognition and affection of our people.

Regarding the Interior Ministry, in some areas there was a weakening in its cadres' efficiency and exemplary attitude which have characterized their heroic and extraordinary struggles for years.

This did not occur in the face of the counterrevolutionary enemy. There, the fighting and impressive efficiency of the cadres did not fail. However, the Interior Ministry handles a great number of tasks. All of these tasks are of fundamental importance to the country and the revolution. In some areas there was bureaucratization and an easing in demands and in discipline. Sunspots will not prevent us from seeing the sun, but we always want our Interior Ministry to be like a sun without blemish. [applause]

We have been working and making advances and reaching positive results in overcoming these difficulties. Our state security organs have detected, neutralized and firmly fought the activities carried out against Cuba by imperialism, the CIA and the remnants of internal counterrevolution. In the last 5 years there have been activities of political and economic espionage, and the enemy particularly emphasized work aimed at hindering our trade negotiations with other countries. Likewise, there occurred diversionist actions intended to foster a climate of ideological slackening and destabilization within the nation.

In the face of these plans and these diverse acts of hostility by the enemy, our security once again proved its condition as a firm, sure and powerful defender of the interests of the revolution and the people.

The strictest fidelity to the principle of never utilizing violence against the arrested enemy has continued to be inviolable norm of the security organ's work. This has permitted greater development of its operational capacity, its intelligence, and has raised even further its authority and revolutionary morale.

Along with the other organs of the Interior Ministry, security combatants have distinguished themselves during this period for their valuable support for the holding of the great international events celebrated in our country, such as the 11th world youth and student festival and sixth summit conference of the nonaligned countries.

We cannot but mention the combatants who, with proverbial revolutionary stoicism, have accomplished the delicate mission entrusted to them within the very ranks of the enemy through these years. Likewise, the heroic border guards, who maintain zealous guard over every inch of our country, also deserve the salute and recognition of all the people.

During the greater part of the past 5-year period there was a weak response by the National Revolutionary Police to the call to double the fight against the crimes of theft and larcency and in other tasks entrusted to it. There were problems in the demands made of the cadres, in discipline. There were deficiencies in the selection of personnel, and a lack of decision and firmness in confrontations with antisocial elements. The main difficulties were found in the command and in some legal mechanisms that did not contribute to a more active and efficient effort to fight crime. This year firm efforts were made to eradicate this problem, and although there are still some deficiencies, in general terms more efficient work by the fighters of the National Revolutionary Police is already evident.

One of the first steps in this direction was the adoption of vigorous measures toward the end of 1979 to neutralize elements with bad criminal records and a high degree of social danger. This measure, the later exodus of the scum to the United States and the increase in the rate of operations against crime permitted crime against property, which since 1975 had been on an upward trend, to begin to drop in this past year. There were 23 percent fewer forceable robberies in 1980 than in 1979. Robberies with violence or intimidation were considerably reduced and were 23 percent fewer this year than in 1975.

Traffic accidents, which had increased during the early years of the past 5-year period, already show a decline and in 1980 reached the lowest figure in the last few years, with 19 percent fewer than in 1979. However, there has been a relative increase in accidents in terms of human lives, injuries and property damage. The struggle against negligence, which causes traffic accidents, must be maintained and tenaciously improved.

We would like to stress the decisive role played by the men and women of the Interior Ministry along with all our combative people in the events at the Peruvian Embassy, the U.S. Interests Office and the departure of antisocial elements via Mariel. In particular, our National Revolutionary Police remained mobilized for months and accomplished the duties entrusted to them with a high spirit of responsibility, and made a large contribution to this great political and moral victory of our fatherland. [applause]

We have attained important advances in the decrease of fires, their prevention and in the struggle to eradicate their causes. The firefighters have been noted for their calm, courageous and efficient attitude at times when lives and valuable resources were endangered.

Within our policy we have implemented a vast national plan to improve our penitentiary system and update its material base. The average number of inmates incorporated into socially useful work with the corresponding salary is greater than 78 percent of those eligible for this program.

In coordination with the Education Ministry, we have given special attention to the situation of juvenile delinquents.

In the Angolan war, supporting the patriots against the racist South African invasion, during the most difficult days, together with our glorious Revolutionary Armed Forces, the special troops battalion of the Interior Ministry fought heroically and carried out especially important missions. [applause]

Also during these years, the Interior Ministry has given its cooperation and internationalist assistance to many countries. The Interior Ministry fighters will have to confront many complex tasks. We now have a higher institute to help properly train, professionally and technically, with an enrollment of more than 900 students.

The necessary steps are being given to establish the first areas of specialization of its graduates. The work from now on will be dedicated to reinforcing expediency and control, strengthening discipline at all levels, expanding the policies of cells, to establishing a proper hierarchy in the operational level, eliminating all expressions of bureaucratism and to developing political work in the implementation of specific tasks.

With regard to the Revolutionary National Police, their command units have been strengthened and more measures will be taken to improve their working conditions, equipping patrol units and advancing cultural and technical programs to obtain a maximum operational level.

We are fully confident that the Interior Ministry fighters will continue reinforcing their ideological and political training. The future will find this unbreakable and firm shield of our country still stronger. Its fighters will be an example of responsibility and dedication to duty and will continue to have the support, confidence, love and respect of our people. [applause]

It is indisputable that mass organizations have played an important role during these years in our country. They have successfully deployed their forces in the daily struggle against our class enemy at home and abroad.

In the political field, since the very day of the revolutionary triumph and in the period we are now analyzing, they have worked to consolidate power in the hands of the working classes--the peasants and other manual and intellectual workers in the cities and in the country--through revolutionary vigilance, ideological combat in streets and factories, diffusion of Marxist-Leninist ideas and helping them to prevail in our country. They also have helped in the struggle to increase production, savings and efficiency, to promote our socialist economy and to create and develop relations of cooperation in comradery inherent to the nature of socialism.

The mass organizations' capacity to mobilize and to work has played a decisive role in the attainment of success in the fields of education, health, culture, sports and the moral and spiritual development of our society.

The party has depended on, and still depends on, these powerful arms that the mass organizations provide. They are the ties to ensure a closer link with the broad masses of the people.

The Cuban labor federation has included in its ranks 2.383 million members. This represents 97.1 percent of the active labor force. From 1975 to date, there has been a 4.7 increase related to the 92.4 percent of membership of that year.

During these past 5 years, the 14th CTC [Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions] congress was held. It continued the work of the 13th congress to which unforgettable Companero Lazaro Pena dedicated the last days of his life. [applause]

The fundamental conclusions of the 13th congress were fulfilled. This served as a starting point for the radicalization of our labor organizations and set the basis for a greater contribution of the working classes to the nation's development.

With regard to the 14th congress, its conclusions are evidence of the advances attained by the unions in the strengthening of their internal organizations, of their improvement and the political, cultural and technical advance of the workers and the promotion of socialist emulation of the respect for the workers rights, of the work discipline, of the implementation of activities such as the linking of salaries to production, the sugar harvest, the movement of innovators and planners, the internationalist activities, as well as a general contribution to the economic, social and political development of our country.

The structure and work methods of labor organizations extends to the areas of attention needed by the basic organizations to improve their operation and to contribute to a greater relationship between the upper echelons with the base, and to the development of the awareness of the importance and need for maintaining and increasing this attention in the future.

This year, we celebrated the 20th anniversary of the participation of the labor movement in the people's tasks. During each of the past 5-year periods, an average of 44,146 volunteer sugarcane cutters have been mobilized and during the past harvest, we fulfilled the harvesting plan by 110 percent.

Starting in 1977, the labor movement has been holding Red Sundays in homage of the October Revolution anniversary and other important events. A total of 15 Red Sundays have been held during which over 8.089 million workers were mobilized.

The last Red Sunday dedicated to the 73d anniversary of the great October Revolution and the second party congress was the greatest with 1.71 million workers mobilized.

Workers and labor leaders actively have participated in the implementation of the economy's direction and planning. With regards to economic training, the labor movement today has training in 30 economy sectors and other areas still under study. In the national and provincial schools for economic management, more than 300 students have been graduated at various levels and more than 400,000 workers have attended lectures on this speciality. However, this is still insufficient. During this period, the labor movement continued participating in the process of discussion and projection of the national economy plans.

More than 1.445 million workers participated in the discussions of the 1980 economic plan. This is an activity which must be continued and perfected.

In 1976, the National Association of Innovators and Efficiency Experts was created. This organization, led by the labor movement, already has more than 33,000 members who during the past 5 years have made 14,872 innovations with an economic value of 127.228 million pesos.

During this period, important objectives were established to strengthen and promote the socialist emulation, concentrating emulative indicators on those aspects directly related to economic tasks and the strengthening of work discipline.

More than 235,000 additional workers are participating in individual emulations in addition to those who form part of the movement of the distinguished workers in the different sectors of the economy.

During the last 5 years, 178 workers have been declared national work heroes. The Council of State awarded the Jesus Menendez Medal to 34 distinguished workers during 1980. More than 19,580 emulative units are now designated as Moncadista Centers. As an objective for welcoming the second party congress, the CTC National Committee took up the task of updating 500,000 work norms, extending the linkage between work and norms to 1 million workers and granting premium payments to 500,000 workers. These goals were overfulfilled.

One of the labor movement's fundamental accomplishments during this period is related to the technical and cultural improvement of the workers. The struggle for the sixth grade was successfully completed. From the 1975-76 school year when this effort was begun to October 1980, a total of 862,500 adults were graduated from that grade. [applause]

This is still a preliminary figure and it is estimated that by the end of the year the number of sixth grade graduates could surpass 900,000. To justly evaluate the historic greatness of this task, it is sufficient to say that during the 12 years before the 1975-76 school year only slightly more than 500,000 adults were graduated. In half the time this number has been doubled. Since the beginning of the revolution and incl ng the latest results, a total of 1,397,636 working men and women graduated from sixth grade.

Inspired by this success, the labor movement is now facing the battle for the ninth grade, which will undoubtedly result in another educational victory for our workers. It will serve as the basis for a greater technical and productive development of our socialist revolution. The labor movement plans to have not less than 700,000 ninth grade graduates by the year 1985. The present enrollment is 131,974 workers.

The trade union schools have made it possible for 34,577 trade union cadres to complete their studies. Trade union and political education has also been extended to 415 labor leaders in Latin America, the Caribbean and Africa.

The movement of workers who are art amateurs has progressed in its various manifestations, as has athletics. Three festivals of amateurs have been held with the participation of more than 181,000 workers. An average of 900,000 workers per year have participated in sports on the INDER social calendar and the participation in the workers' athletic events has increased from 621,924 in 1976 to more than 1,589,000 in 1980.

The labor movement has been working a great deal to fulfill the agreements which were adopted to strengthen work discipline. The accomplishments which have been made in this field with more work efficiency and firmness are encouraging.

A noteworthy effort has been made in the preparation of the union and worker cadres so that they will be ready to face the demands of the labor and social security legislation. More than 250,000 trade union leaders have participated in seminars. Six study circles have been held with the country's workers to impart knowledge of the legal norms. One million tabloids have been published containing the most important labor and social standards and 200,000 leaflets with the social security law have been printed.

An activity catalogued as insufficient is job safety. There are limitations and deficiencies in the fulfillment of the norms and worker protection and in the supply of procedures and equipment for the workers, which are mainly the responsibility of the state.

Work has been done on one of the most transcendental objectives of our labor movement, that is, the constant elevation of the political and ideological conscience of the workers through the struggle for economic development, education, political study, the promotion of useful voluntary work, the deepening of ideas and the practice of the noble principles of proletarian internationalism, the support for the defense of the country and the dedicated work of our armed forces, the organization of the labor guard [guardia obrera] and the struggle against the remnants of the past and for the development of a genuinely socialist attitude toward work, society and social property.

Our labor movement is now more vigorous and dynamic than ever. [applause] Its ties with the party and the revolution is absolute and complete. Its commitment with socialism and internationalism constitutes a living monument to the immortal ideas of Marx and Engels. [applause]

The dominant classes can tremble before a communist revolution. The workers have nothing to lose except their chains. [applause] On the other hand, they have a world to win. Workers of the world, unite! [applause]

The National Association of Small Farmers [ANAP] has 192,646 associates throughout the country in 3,507 basic organizations. Of these, 1,017 are agricultural and livestock cooperatives, 2,180 are credit and service cooperatives and 310 are peasant associations.

The peasant sector continues to have a significant importance in the production of tobacco, to which it contributes 79 percent while to coffee [production] it contributes 60 percent, and to truck gardening, 47 percent. It has at its disposal 27 percent of the country's livestock and 18 percent of its sugarcane. During the last sugar harvest the machetero peasants had 367 millionaire brigades, over 100 more brigades than in 1975.

It is significant to note that the ANAP has worked on the organization and development of credit and service cooperatives, which constitute an intermediate form of cooperative, and which develop those possible elements of collaboration and tend to guarantee that the producer is not obliged to carry out functions which are not specifically productive.

This organization has also worked on the creation of the mutual aid brigades and the SCNC [expansion unknown], ANAP and the sugarcane brigades as simple forms of cooperation. All of this has contributed to the gradual incorporation of the peasants into the higher forms of production. This occurred after the agreements reached during the first PCC Congress and the fifth ANAP congress, held in May of 1977, which started the cooperative process based on the strictest respect for the will of the peasant family and their integration into the socialist forms of production.

There were 43 production cooperatives in the peasant sector up to 1975. Those which were founded in the early sixties were called farming associations. This movement began to increase and by the end of 1978, there were 363 cooperatives with 1,246 caballerias of cooperative land.

The 8th plenum of the Central Committee called for faster creation of new cooperatives. After that, the ANAP increased its work in this regard so that during 1979 and this year, the number of farming cooperatives increased by 654 and by more than 10,000 caballerias of land. In this manner, by the end of the fourth quarter of 1980 there were 1,017 cooperatives with 14,007 caballerias of land. Therefore, 11.4 percent of the land is in the hands of peasants. Some 25 cooperatives are large ones which cover an area that varies from 35 to 150 caballerias. The total number of cooperative members is 26,454 and of these more than 30 percent are women. Therefore, women have been a greatly influential force in the transformation of working and living conditions of the peasant family. [applause]

The achievements made during this brief period of time are the result of hard efforts, the quality of which presages great prospects for the movement. In general, the co-ops currently are reporting high production by area. They are doubling and tripling the production of the individual parcels that make them up and they are introducing machinery and technology. The average cost per peso of production is 10 centavos. This is a very encouraging profit margin, all the more so if we bear in mind the effects on the rural areas of the cane rust and blue mold in tobacco.

The support of the peasant organization has been felt not only in the cooperation offered to the Agriculture and Sugar Ministries to develop agricultural and livestock production but also in the contribution made to various state agencies involved in the sociocultural development of the peasant families such as the Education Ministry, Public Health Ministry, Culture Ministry, the National Institute for Sports, Physical Education and Recreation [INDER], and the Cuban Radio and Television Institute. The National Association of Small Farmers [ANAP] has waged a successful battle so that all peasants who could study would finish sixth grade during the past 5 years. It recently declared that it had accomplished this important task. [applause]

A total of 31,376 peasants has finished sixth grade in this period of time. The organization plans to continue working toward achieving more active and conscientious participation by the peasant sector in the economy, by the proper use of socialist emulation because the results achieved to date are not what was expected. It also was proposed to improve the collection of the members' dues which is still not entirely satisfactory.

The first national co-op members' meeting which was held recently showed us the promising advances which are being made by increasing production and by achieving better ways of working and living in society. With the support of the party and the state bodies, ANAP is in a position to continue firmly advancing toward the development and consolidation of the co-op movement. Its sixth congress, which will be held next year, will be the proper way to work toward that goal.

The success achieved by the co-op in the economic, social and political areas holds brilliant prospects for this better form of peasant production. Our revolution should have promoted this process before. We are now marching aright, without haste or risks. The extraordinary patriotic, revolutionary and humanitarian quality of our peasants ensures success. They will have the maximum support of the party and the state. We will recover lost time. Healthy emulation already is being practiced between the state farms and the co-ops, between the agricultural workers and the peasants. The nation, the revolution and the just ideas of Marxism-Leninism shall bear fruit. [applause]

The women's organization, which this year is 20 years old, has gathered 80 percent of women over 14, represented by workers, peasants, students, homemakers, professional women, FAR members and Interior Ministry workers. It currently has 2.42 million members. In the period we are analyzing, Cuban women, guided by the Federation of Cuban Women [FMC], have worked hard to live by the agreements reached by their second congress and by the first party congress for the sake of achieving full equal rights for women.

The results of this 5-year plan were thoroughly analyzed by the third FMC congress held this year. Considerable advance has been made in the struggle to achieve women's integral development and their effective and complete incorporation into the tasks of building the socialist society in all aspects of political, economic, social and cultural life. An example of that has been the incorporation of 141,500 women to new jobs, their long tenure and the favorable variation in their distribution by occupational categories.

The number of women in technical posts has grown in the last 5 years because 77,000 of them are in this category; that is, 60.2 percent of all workers who have occupied such positions in the nation and 55 percent of the women who have joined the job force during these 5 years. During these years, material conditions have been established to allow women to have greater access to labor. Every measure taken on this has been accompanied by important ideological work and specific guidelines which have contributed to current results.

The advance made during these 5 years has been achieved through the appropriate policy of promoting women followed by the party. A total of 32 percent of the work force is women and measures must be taken to keep up those figures. It is necessary to permanently demand that the policy of hiring women be practiced to forestall the use of favoritism or discrimination in hiring and promotion. We must be more zealous in this as we begin to use direct hiring. The proper use of this system should promote the creation of new jobs for women, particularly in agriculture and livestock and in the people's government industries. The march toward better forms of production in the peasant sector also offers women a large area of participation.

There is a high number of female co-op members and that number should rise even more in the future. It is only fair to mention the outstanding ability of women workers. They represent 39.4 percent of workers who are studying. The prestige they enjoy among their comrades is noticeable because they constitute 42.7 percent of the leaders chosen in the labor sections and 32.6 percent in the labor bureaus. [applause]

These achievements in women's promotion within the labor movement are encouraging. It is necessary to continue advancing in this regard in the party. The Union of Young Communists [UJC] and the other mass and social organizations have been noticed to improve during the past 5 years while in peoples government women's promotions have been lower. The FMC has made a vauluable contribution to the goal of incorporating women into leadership duties. It has tried to find solutions to all the factors that might prevent the achievement of that goal. Other data on FMC activities in the last few years are the incorporation of 1,498,000 women to the movement of mothers fighting for education, a powerful support for the schools. More than 200,000 housewives have finished sixth grade [applause] and thousands of others are trying to finish ninth grade.

The FMC has contributed to the sugar, coffee and tobacco harvests and other important crops and harvests, to the steady work of the social workers to prevent crime and to the work of 55,000 women health brigade members who voluntarily are doing health-related jobs in the mother-child care program. During this period, we must highlight their work in vaccinating 5-year-olds and housewives and in the administration of more than 389,000 psychological tests in 1979 and more than 223,000 in the first half of this year. This is an indication of the incessant work done by these brigades which also are devoted to the defense of the nation through their permanent preparation for wartime as members of civil defense.

The political and ideological development attained by Cuban women is really impressive. Their work as internationalist workers, their disposition as combatants, their attitude regarding the defense of the nation are examples of this. It is necessary to stress their firm and determined participation in the struggle waged by all our people vis-a-vis the provocations of internal and international enemies. The FMC is doing permanent work to improve the ideological training of its membership and cadres. Some 27.7 percent of the FMC cadres have taken the medium-level and basic courses given by the party schools and the FE del Valle school [of the FMC] which is also attended by comrades from Africa, Asia and Latin America is a real token of the FMC's solidarity with its sisters throughout the world.

The international work of the federation has been valuable and important. The FMC has great prestige both among the international bodies and the women's organizations with which it is in contact. The FMC has worked seriously on the recommendation of the eighth central committee plenum concerning the need for it to fund itself.

It has maintained strict control of expenses and it has increased its revenue through a policy of austerity, achieving an index of meeting 80 percent of the expenditures in its budget.

Fulfilling one of the resolutions of its third congress, the women's organization is involved in the analysis of its structure and the content of future tasks. For this purpose, it plans to strengthen and improve work style and methods as well as the internal operation of the organization. Through its theses and resolutions, the third congress of the Cuban women's federation called for continuing the struggle for the full exercise of women's equality. Our party, in a joint effort with the state, the UJC and the country's mass and social organizations, reiterates its determined and firm support of this struggle which we will not cease until this historic objective is achieved.

Only the socialist revolution can lift woman from her condition as slave, instrument of pleasure, victim of all kinds of prejudice and of cruel social discrimination in a class society to the full equality, dignity and opportunity in socialism. If we have not yet achieved it totally, we are advancing along that path. With their own struggle and that of all the revolutionaires, we will achieve this historic, just and unwavering goal of our revolution. The entire country will benefit.

It is essential for the future of mankind that society can enjoy the benefits offered by the abnegation, spirit of sacrifice, unsurpassable sense of responsibility and all the political, administrative and humane capacity with which nature has endowed women. [applause]

In the period we are analyzing, the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution [CDR] have confirmed their condition as an irreplaceable instrument in the development and promotion of the casks of the defense of the fatherland, the political and ideological education of the masses and the support of the tasks of the community.

The theses and the resolutions approved at its first congress held in 1977, helped to strengthen its organizational functioning and elevate the political level of its members, demonstrating once again the unrestricted support of all our people, grouped in the largest of our mass organizations, for our party and for the construction of socialism in our country. In carrying out revolutionary vigilance, the CDR's basic task, they have worked with dedication these past years. In response to the call to redouble the participation of the CDR masses in this important task, a call issued during the eighth plenum of the central committee, there was a notable increase in membership in the night guards, consisting of the daily presence of more than 30,000 defenders of the revolutionary power in our blocks. This has contributed to a much more effective detection and prevention of crime and other activities directed against the goods of our working people and the security of our revolutionary state.

The important role played by the CDR in the development of the conscience of the masses clearly was demonstrated in the glorious events of April and May in response to the provocations of the antisocial individuals and the enemies of the revolution. The dates 19 April, 1 May, 17 May and 27 September were culminating points in the march of the fighting people and will be recorded in history as decisive battles won by the people in their proper response to the internal and external enemies of the revolution.

The support which this mass organization has given to the various economic, cultural and social activities in the community has been shown in the collection of more than 81 million pounds of paper and cardboard, 224 million glass bottles and almost 500,000 ounces of stamps which bring tens of thousands of pesos in foreign exchange for the country.

More than 1 million parents or relatives of our school children and youths obtained each year the distinction of exemplary parents in education. The popular schools of parents have become an effective tool for training and linking parents and relatives with the students and the schools. The contribution of the CDR to the strengthening of the school councils and other tasks in support of education must be noted. The polio vaccination plans have been successfully carried out. The blood donations surpass by more than 100,000 those achieved in the previous 5-year period. The CDR members actively have participated in numerous prophylactic tasks and in various campaigns carried out by the Public Health Ministry.

The mobilizations for volunteer work as a shaper of communist conscience have counted due to the enthusiastic participation of the CDR, basically in the support given to agricultural tasks and cleanup, beautification and other tasks, achieving the figure of more than 50 million mobilized in the past 5 years.

Since their creation, the organs of the people's government have found in the CDR their most active collaboration, both in the effective contribution to the election processes carried out as well as in the mobilization and preparation of the assemblies of rendering of accounts by the delegates in the electoral districts and the propaganda and dissemination about this important instrument of socialist democracy.

During these years, in fulfillment of the resolutions adopted in its first congress, the CDR have worked to improve the indexes of the dues [contizacion] of their members. They are carrying out a policy of austerity and savings in all areas and this year they have achieved the self-financing of the organization.

This powerful mass organization which recently commemorated its first 20 years of unselfish and praiseworthy work has 5,321,000 members. [applause] In the period it has grown by more than 500,000 new members. The organization has expressed the need to give priority in its future growth to youths about to turn 14.

As a creative idea of the revolution, which founded for the first time in history this mass organization, the CDR constitute a contribution to the experience of the world revolutionary movement. They have been and are the dread of the counterrevolution and they are a huge popular tide without which, through their resolute support of the party, one could not imagine the happiness of the revolution and the enthusiasm, organization and discipline of the march of our fighting people. [applause]

The Federation of University Students [FEU] and the Federation of Intermediate Level Students [FEEM] include more than 450,000 students. They have made an important contribution to the task of achieving a better quality of education and at the same time they have increased their influence and capacity of mobilization among the students. One of the activities in which the attention of the FEU and the FEEM has been concentrated is the linking of study with work. The effort being carried out by the student organizations in the incorporation of youths into the priority specialities and of the university graduates into the places where they are most needed also must be noted. The incorporation of youths in the Manuel Ascunce Domenech teaching detachment is of outstanding value. From its members, the Che Guevara internationalist detachment, which has carried out prestigious and praiseworthy service, was formed.

During vacations, the students have mobilized to work in our fields, in the weeding of sugarcane and other tasks with positive results. Among other basic tasks, these organizations must continue working so that the students will take sufficient advantage of the work day, so that individual and collective study will be carried out systematically, so that there is increasing respect of professors, formal education and the care of social property and so that each student will have an absolutely consistent attitude toward study, work and the principles of our society.

During the past school term, substantial changes were introduced in student emulation which should promote its development and increase the participation of the students. A greater recognition of the outstanding youths, better publicizing of the results and the definite selection of the incentives also will help guarantee that emulation will fulfill its proper role.

The student assemblies for communist education, as well as those of merits and emeritus, have been an important instrument for the improvement of the social conduct, the formal education and the critical and self-critical spirit of the youths. We should make efforts so that these assemblies will continuously improve their quality and educational content.

In the next years, the FEU and FEEM must strengthen their role of representing and adequately channeling the concerns and interests of the students. For their part the state organizations should support the student organizations in fulfilling this function, should solve the problems within the possibilities of the country and should in all cases offer clear and convincing replies to the students.

Both organizations must pay special attention to the stability and quality of functioning of the rank-and-file structures by stimulating the mass practice of cultural and sports activities as well as by promoting the adequate use of free time. Our students' participation in the struggle for revolutionary exigency which all the people are waging is stimulating. Today we have more patriotic, internationalist, cultured, aware and revolutionary students, as was confirmed in the first great battle of this generation of young people which was waged in the months of April and May of this year. In those formidable mass mobilizations our students took to the streets with resolute combativeness and made evident their great potential which shows that the revolution's efforts for the young people have not been in vain. We must state today with absolute certainty and optimism that in the classrooms a worthy relief is being forged which is the guarantee for the continuity and the future advance of the revolutionary work. [applause]

The Pioneers organization completed its process of extension to the ninth grade, by which it increased its ranks to 2.2 million. This organization must continue to make efforts to put its activities in line with the ages, characteristics and interests of the pioneers at basic secondary level, to improve selection, training and operation of the guides and study the amount of time these must dedicate to Pioneer activities. These aspects should continue to be high priority. Likewise, the UJC must give constant attention to all aspects of the Pioneers' work.

During the past school year a process of analysis was developed with the ninth grade Pioneers with a view to making decisions regarding recommendations that the most outstanding consider possible entry in the UJC. The Pioneer organization thus contributes to better training and a deeper evaluation of youths, which makes it possible for new graduating classes of young communists to call for higher demands and quality.

Pioneer installations have increased. We have a nationwide stable enrollment of more than 84,000 Pioneers in scientific-technical interest circles oriented toward the vocational training developing in the Pioneers' circles and palaces. Of these, 45,000 belong to the new Ernesto "Che" Guevara Central Palace, one of the most useful and beautiful works built during the 5-year period.

During the past 5 years, 1.4 million Pioneers enjoyed the camps which the nation currently has. Naturally, this number includes Pioneers who participated more than once.

In summary, we have made progress in complying with the objectives of Pioneer installations. We obtained proof of the better utilization of abilities, a greater number and variety of activities and higher results in the continuity of the student education process.

We must continue to give careful attention to the camps, circles and palaces so that they may fully comply with their high social responsibility.

At present, the country has 484 school vegetable gardens and 630 plots of land where 195,700 Pioneers carry out productive activities. This has contributed positively to the children's labor education.

Nevertheless, it is necessary that those responsible for their execution assure their growth and stable operation. In our country, children, whom Marti called the hope of the world, are the guarantee for a future of development of science, technology, higher culture and the impressive advance of the communist conscience.

Our Pioneers, the sure future of the revolution, grow up surrounded by all of society's affection and attention. In the future we will not scrimp on energy and resources to achieve increasingly greater blossoming of all of their marvelous abilities.

We are proud of the strength, prestige and capacity for organization and political education and struggle of our mass organizations, among which we also include, by the way, the FEU, FEEM and Pioneers. Thanks to them, the bond between our party and the people becomes extraordinary stronger. They have been present in the great battles of the revolution. Socialism is not built at the doors of Yankee imperialism without a vigorous and vibrant people. Without them, it is impossible to conceive, alongside the party, our march toward the fatherland's heroic and shining future. [Applause]

Social organizations continued to broaden and improve their role in meeting to the specific problems of diverse professional sectors of the nation.

The National Union of Cuban Writers and Artists [UNEAC] held its second congress and has developed constant work to promote artistic and literary activity in close coordination with cultural organizations. In this phase, its leadership team was strengthened. It improved considerably the work of its different sections. Its prestige has grown and its international bonds have been broadened. Affilliates were created in various provinces and their establishment in others is being considered.

In the next period, the UNEAC should gain in its organization and in the depth of its work and should bring its members closer to the tasks of socialist edification.

The Union of Cuban Journalists also held its fourth congress and has done great work for professional, political and ideological improvement of journalists as well as their increasingly efficient contribution to the tasks of the revolutionary press. The organization's decisions are oriented toward deepening even further all of its activities and emphasize journalists commitment to exercise analytical, militant and creative journalism.

The Union of Jurists and the National Association of Cuban Economists were established. These represent two important professional sectors of the nation with growing roles in the development of our society. The other professional and social organizations year after year enrich their work content. Our party will continue to offer them the attention and support they need. [applause]

[Havana Domestic Service begins coverage of this main report segment already in progress]...universality and historical significance. The preparatory tasks and its celebration were carried out with determination by the Union of Young Communists with the cooperation of the mass and social organizations, the state's organizations and all our people under the direction of the party.

The special emulation undertaken for the 11th [world youth and student] festival left valuable experiences in the mobilization of the people and promotion of economic and social plans. The fundraising was a popular triumph. More than 78 million pesos were raised, a figure which more than surpassed the goals and made it possible not only to defray part of the expenses for the festival in national currency, but also will help to pay for new palaces and camps for pioneers and other social projects in the next few years.

In the days of the festival, the children and youth code was promulgated. Because of its formative content, it requires greater dissemination and attention by the organizations which are involved in its practical application.

The UJC also has made advances in fundamental activities aimed at strengthening the function of its leading organs and grass roots organizations. However, insufficiencies still are being manifested, primarily in the systematic exercise of criticism and self-criticism, and in linking of UJC members with the other youths whom the UJC should mobilize to tackle united the tasks at each school or work place.

During the period that has passed since the first party congress, the UJC improved the quality of its growth, increased its membership among workers and paid particular attention to the exemplary behavior of young communists in the student sector. The age for membership in its ranks was extended to age 30. The category of candidate for membership in the organization was established for young students.

The UJC increased its membership as a result of its growth work and in June 1980, it reached the figure of more than 422,000 members and candidate members, or 83,000 more than it had in December 1975.

The organization fulfilled the first party congress guideline of placing emphasis on growth from among young workers and it reached the figure of 79,000 members of this category. This practically doubled the number of workers who were members in 1975. There also was an increase of 25,000 new members and candidate members from the student sector.

As a significant piece of information, we should note that young females today represent 41.8 percent of members, while it was 30 percent in 1975.

Among the professional cadres of the UJC, the proportion of females currently is 14.3 percent as opposed to 5.3 early in the past 5-year period. This percentage still is low.

The UJC must continue to apply the policy established for its growth and give priority to workers directly linked to production, education and services, including the young workers. Likewise, and in keeping with the UJC role of working with all the country's youths, emphasis must continue on the political and ideological training of young students and, as a result of this, more young communists should be developed on the inalterable basis of quality and merits in this particularly important sector of the activity of the youth organization.

During this phase, the work aimed at developing future party members improved. During the period, this allowed the admission to the party of 84,955 young communists who represent 35.5 percent of all new party members. The youth organization must continue to work so as to raise increasingly the quality of these promotions.

In the application of the UJC's policy on cadres, positive results have been obtained in the composition of UJC leadership organizations. The struggle must continue for a greater stability of cadres of the UJC, organization of pioneers and other student organizations.

The UJC has worked to complete the tasks it has been assigned for the country's economic development. Outstanding among these tasks was the shock projects movement of which seven have been completed. Work is in progress on 17.

The youth technical brigades were strengthened. They already have more than 100,000 members. The brigades were expanded to cover other areas of economic and social development and the objectives established for 1980 were overfulfilled.

Our young workers should participate more actively in the daily struggle for production and, with their initiatives and enthusiasm, they can contribute to the successful fulfillment of plans.

In the educational sector, our youth organization has aimed its work at obtaining better results in school promotion rates and in teaching and training activities. Progress has been attained on these aspects. However, during the period, difficulties arose with the discipline of a small number of young students as a result of their attitude toward studies and work, toward the use and care of public and individual property, and toward the fulfillment of elementary standards of conduct and social coexistence, as well as with the militancy and intransigency with which part of our young communists should reject these manifestations.

Particularly during the most recent period where the process of intensifying revolutionary awareness at our universities stands out, show the prospects for appropriate political and ideological work with the students. The UJC must raise to the maximum its concern over and its attention to any indication of weakness, softening or inconsistency that may emerge among the students.

In the development of the UJC ideological work, as well as of the student and pioneer organizations, the work in support of defense tasks and patriotic-military education has been significant. Among the latter, the especially outstanding ones are those activities which, with originality and in an attractive manner, take the young people to the natural scenario of historic events. During the current 5-year period more than 300,000 young people have participated in such activities which bring them close to our people's heroic past of struggles.

The Constitution of the Association of Patriotic-Military Education assigns new dimensions to this task and makes it possible to unite efforts and obtain superior results. Furthermore, a system of publications has been organized to further assist in channeling more completely the interests and concerns of children and youth and bringing to them the revolution's ideas in a pleasant manner adhering to their characteristics.

It is necessary to examine, within the country's possibilities, the solutions which will allow us to improve quality, increase the number of publications, reduce delays in publication and overcome the difficulties in circulation. The daily JUVENTUD REBELDE, which commemorated its 15th anniversary this year, has played an important role in mobilizing the youth and has reflected the interests and principal activities of the young generation in building socialism and, at the same time, has continued to improve its position as a result of the vigorous drive they have made in the past 5 years. Membership has increased to more than 5,000 creative young people, new quality work and a greater participation in national and international activities.

The party's attention has been directed at the UJC's organizational strength, at the dissemination of its activities and initiatives, at the continued strengthening of its influence over the country's youth. Our objective is that the UJC, as is the case with student and pioneer organizations, continue to develop still further its personality and own role and be capable of working actively, enthusiastically and enterprisingly in the fulfillment of its tasks.

To this end, the improvement of methods and work style used by the party in its relations with those organizations is very important. It is particularly necessary that, in examining regularly the youth's and students' work, our leadership organs and rank-and-file pay special attention to those aspects where there are difficulties. It is essential to supervise the adequate use of the means that have been established for development of ties between the party and those organizations.

A role of positive influence can be played by the party members working with UJC leadership organs and rank-and-file committees to which they must give their highest degree of attention. Our party must remain alert to detect in time any insufficiency in the work of the UJC, student organizations and the Pioneers, to learn with the greatest accuracy their problems and to help them adopt measures with their own revolutionary intelligence and sensibility to correct those insufficiencies.

We have limitless confidence in our youth. Young people make up the ranks and schools of our glorious Revolutionary Armed Forces and, as followers of the heroic combatants of our rebel army, defend with firmness, determination, discipline and courage the gains of our people.

Day after day, under conditions of extreme difficulty and adversity, young people guard our beaches and coastline, confront the enemy who has infiltrated or is under cover and feel great honor in serving as members of our Interior Ministry. Today, right now, heroic and selfless youths occupy their combat posts in the wastelands of Ogaden, in the trenches of Lubango, in Cabinda and many other places. [applause] There they have their Sierra Maestra. There they defend the right of those peoples to have freedom, food, dignity, life. They struggle for them and for us. They struggle for the revolution and socialism.

Young people are a large part of our exemplary and selfless internationalist workers who, stationed in more than 30 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America, far from their families and under hard and difficult conditions, offer their services honestly, quietly and honorably to the other peoples. [applause]

Hundreds of thousands of our workers are young people who day after day give their best effort at the factory, shop, classroom, countryside and the sea to help advance the revolution. The revolution has not concluded. On the long path of history it has barely begun to move. The development of science and technology, the full conquest of nature, the attainment of a superior social and political consciousness, the fulfillment of the internationalist duty, completing building socialism and advancing toward communism are the fundamental objectives ahead of the new generation. It will be as equal to its time as were Cuban youth of other eras. Better prepared in all senses, it will be a worthy heir of today's revolutionaries and will repeat many times the glories and victories of our people. [applause]

Our Communist Party, the best fruit of our revolution and the best guarantee of its historic continuity, has come to this second congress with highly valuable accomplishments. For example, we are proud that we have a much stronger party, better organized, with greater experience and culture and having a deep-rooted and indestructible stability in the love and respect felt for it by the working masses.

During our first congress, special attention was given to the social composition of the party ranks beginning with the working credentials of its militants and those trying to join it, as well as to the need for directing its growth efforts toward the more important sectors of the country's economy and social life. Likewise, the necessity to achieve an increase in women's representation in party ranks to the degree of the possibilities and conditions existing in each place was evaluated. In fulfilling these objectives, during the current 5-year period a broad process of growth was developed which made it possible to reach a total of 434,143 in July 1980 from a total of 211,642 party members and candidate members on 31 December 1975. [applause] This means that in this 5-year period our party ranks have doubled. In the midst of this great effort, the will to maintain quality has been the governing principle in determining admission into the party ranks.

Our leadership organs and the rank-and-file organizations have zealously observed this principle. It must be noted that the increase in our membership came basically from the sectors to which priority had been assigned, especially in the sugar industry, the rest of the industrial sector, transportation, education and construction. It is also important to note the results attained in the livestock-agricultural sector as well as in public health. The growth developed in this period of time has made it possible for the party nucleus to grow from 20,344 in December 1975 to more than 26,500 today. [applause]

It is a very positive fact that in the past 3 years alone new rank-and-file organizations were established in 3,195 centers. Of these centers, 2,222 are devoted to material production and 808 are educational. Doubtlessly this factor has made it possible for our party to broaden still more its direct influence among the working masses and its possibilities of supporting and controlling the work of the centers in which it operates.

It is significant to note the improvement achieved in recent years with respect to the party's labor composition. The workers directly linked to production and services, who in December 1975 represented 36.3 percent of the members, today are 47.3 percent of the total. In absolute figures, an increase greater than 2.9 times has been attained compared to 1975. Thus, the objective that the workers in these labor categories should become the fundamental nucleus of the party ranks, in accordance with the contents of the thesis on internal affairs adopted by the first congress, has been fulfilled.

This growth has also made it possible for party members and candidate members who are tied to production and services or education, including professionals and technicians, to now represent a significant majority among the membership, that is, 62.3 percent of the total. It is unquestionable that these results positively reflect on all party work, ensure that the party's social composition will continue to correspond with the more revolutionary class of society and make it possible for us to exercise a greater influence over the working masses. It is necessary to point out that, due to the great number of members joining the recent years, a systematic and consistent effort must be made in the future to educate them in the discipline and work habits of the organization. In addition, it will be necessary to continue to give priority attention to the party's recruiting and growth efforts for the purpose of maintaining and continuing to improve the labor composition which we have already achieved.

The growth developed in this period of time also made it possible for the women's representation in our membership to be raised from 14.1 percent in December 1975 to 19.1 percent in July 1980. It must be noted that attention given by the party leadership organs to fulfillment of these objectives required an intense and difficult effort in recent years, mainly on the part of rank-and-file units and municipal committees. The fact that 35.5 percent of new admissions into the party during this 5-year period were recruited from the UJC, which indicates that, despite the broad growth effort developed during the period the UJC continues to be one of the principal sources of party members, is very positive.

In the 5 years elapsed since the first congress, the party rank-and-file organizations and leadership organs have honorably and adquately used the principles contained in the bylaws and regulations dealing with disciplinary sanctions.

During this period of time a better use of internal sanctions has been made in order to make them serve as a serious warning in educating all communists. During these years, there have been more sanctions of an internal nature than those leading to expulsion from party membership. In each case the party has acted under the principle of not being tolerant or implacable when militants or candidate members make a mistake. We must acknowledge the fact that criticism and self-criticism are not yet being practiced to the degree required by the daily affairs of party rank-and-file organizations and leadership organs despite the fact they are essential in facing up to and solving the weaknesses and deficiencies resulting from individual and collective activities of our cadres, militants and candidate members and, very especially, in leadership organs and rank-and-file organizations.

Following the agreement adopted by the Central Committee Secretariat in connection with this matter, some encouraging results have been observed. It is necessary that the party organs and organizations continue to lend special attention to the rigorous fulfillment of this norm of our party activity. The party is determined not to take one step backward in the struggle against wrongdoing, against all weaknesses and deficiencies and to maintain with firmness and discipline from its militants and candidate members so that they serve as an example in educating society.

Beginning on 1 January 1976 the party bylaws adopted by the first congress went into effect. During all these years our cadres, militants and candidate members became aware that the bylaws are the fundamental law in party life. Studying the bylaws and the effort to apply them rigorously became a daily task for all Cuban communists. Here is a great awareness on the need for loyally practicing democratic centralism as an essential condition for party ideological and political cohesion as well as unity of action. There is also a profound understanding in connection with the importance of the fulfillment of the rest of the Leninist principles on organization and leadership established by the bylaws.

By order of the first congress the regulations which, in accordance with the standards outlined in the bylaws, make feasible and guarantee the fullfillment of the bylaws' contents, were prepared and implemented. Great progress has been made by the cadres, militants and candidate members in the study of the bylaws. The application of these documents has contributed to the raising and deepening of the party role and work at all levels by the leadership organs and rank-and-file organizations in their relations with the state agencies, UJC and mass organizations.

The party should continue to work to attain the efficient use of the different mechanisms and guidelines it needs to supervise the UJC and mass organizations because they are the irreplaceable vehicles to materialize its necessary link with the working masses and people in general. Party work in the economy has been a factor of significant importance in the advances and successes achieved in the field of the economy. A sustained and growing effort can be observed in this sphere of control activity, coordination and support for the fulfillment of the country's development plan.

The actions of the party membership, rank-and-file organizations, leadership organs assisted by auxiliary bodies at all levels have been directed at stepping up and consolidating the system of economic management and planning, improvement of the economic leadership's mechanisms and raising the level of the quality of production. Great efforts are currently being made to further raise the level of the role of the vanguard detachment in the effort of leadership, organization and economic efficiency, striving, of course, to strengthen the authority of the administration and moving forward the economic plans, placing special stress, particularly, on priority sectors of the economy. The main ones among those efforts are the activities dealing with cane agriculture and sugar industry, agriculture in general and cattle industry, port work, construction work, the investment and industrial process, other important activities of industry, transportation and services, as well as the proper use of manpower and material resources with the consequent increase in production and productivity.

It will be necessary to keep moving toward this goal, to continue improving our mechanisms of economic management and adequately guide the whole productive process in accordance with our policy of economic exigency and efficiency.

It is important to continue to strengthen the ancillary sections of the administrative organs with capable cadres. In the particular case of sections adjunct to the Central Committee, we must strive to make the efficiency and quality of its cadres increasingly contribute to facilitate the work of the Politburo and the Secretariat. Among other things, control and advisory activities developed by the higher organs for the lower organs, including the rank-and-file organizations, have had their effect in improving the party's methods and styles of work during the [5-year] period. Communication with the cadres and militants of the party through reports on the negative and positive experiences that have come up during work in order to generalize or eradicate them, as the case may be, has also been positive.

Despite the aforementioned, there are still difficulties. We must improve the training of the party's cadres and militants so that they may better carry out their functions as well as apply other measures so that we may solve the deficiences that still exist.

With regard to the functioning of the party's management organs and rank-and-file organizations, we must note an increase in collective work in all areas, the regularity of meetings and the understanding gained that it is the plenums of the committee which are called to learn about and decide the most important matters within their jurisdiction. However, these organizations and management organs, including their plenums, do not always analyze, discuss and decide on fundamental problems in the most suitable manner. The party must continue to work systematically on this.

The assemblies held by the rank-and-file organizations and the meetings of the party's mid-level leadership as part of the process preceding the second congress critically analyzed the progress made and the difficulties observed in the work in each place or territory. The directorates of the party's nuclei and committees were elected and the plans or work objectives for the duration of their mandates were approved. These processes were characterized by the broad and free participation in the analysis and approval of the various matters discussed.

The cadres policy is firmly linked to the party's leadership role in the country's economic, political and social spheres. During the 5-year period the necessary steps were taken to initiate the execution and control of the directives approved by the first party congress in this field. At this stage, the main emphasis was placed on the selection and placement of the cadres. We must continue working so that the movement of cadres is carried out in accordance with established norms, taking into account all objective and subjective factors. These include political, ideological, moral, cultural, technical and professional qualities as well as the indispensable practical experience. At times, these factors have not been evaluated with the necessary thoroughness when formulating a proposal. We must be careful so that situations of this nature will not be repeated henceforth.

An area in the cadres policy that has not received the necessary attention is the preparation of the list of reserves that makes it possible for us to select the best qualified comrade for each post. In the coming years, it will be necessary to work on this aspect. The larger the list of candidates from whom we can select the cadres, the better we will be able to promote the best qualified. We must refine the mechanisms that enable us to obtain the necessary elements for a more thorough and objective evaluation of each cadre and make the evaluation reflect the results of his work in the post he holds, his achievements, deficiencies and potential.

The party, the UJC and the mass organizations have worked to implement the directive that their leadership organs have an adequate proportion of workers involved in production, teaching or services. We note that in the last assembly process carried out in 1980, these workers made up 33 percent of the provincial committees and 53 percent of the municipal committees. These figures speak for themselves. When the 1979 assembly process concluded, the UJC made up 33.7 percent of the provincial committees and 52.4 percent of the municipal committees.

In the last assembly processes, the mass organizations have also met the proposed membership figures in the composition of their leadership organs.

These results will undoubtedly translate into a more adequate classist way of looking at things, more discipline, collectivist spirit, selflessness and sacrifice. They will also help these organs to devote more attention to the rank and file.

The effort made in this period to fulfill the guidelines set out by the cadres policy reflects, in a general sense, some progress. However, we must work with greater firmness and depth in this area.

The party's schools, whose 20th anniversary we celebrate this year, have done a positive job in the political and ideological education of the cadres. During this 5-year period, 24,512 comrades have graduated and 519 obtained the social sciences degree. Considerable progress has been observed in the increase in the scientific level of the program as a result of the sustained improvement of the teachers. More than 90 percent of the teachers have a higher degree or are working to obtain it. The work of the UJC and mass organizations schools has improved noticeably. The schools have also contributed to educating more than 1,200 students from other countries who, along with a theoretical education, have learned of Cuba's experiences in the building of socialism.

These results notwithstanding, the party, UJC and mass organizations schools must continue to improve their work so as to reach the scientific level required by the increasingly complex education of the cadres for the building of socialism. The political study groups program has continued to evolve with satisfactory results in raising the political and ideological levels of the militants of the party, the UJC and the people as a whole. We must continue to improve its quality and eradicate the formalism that at times appears in the course of some study groups.

During the 5-year period, 81,324 party militants and candidates have taken courses in Marxist-Leninist theory. Of those, 16,034 graduated from the basic courses of the party's provincial schools and 65,290 from the political-ideological improvement centers. The experience thus gained confirms that these centers are the basic vehicle for the Marxist-Leninist education of the party's members.

More than 2,000 comrade teachers and directors work in them. Most of them are party activists. The number of centers will be increased in the coming 5-year period. Their teaching level will be improved. Courses for candidates to party membership, initiated in September 1976, have been a valuable way to educate these comrades. The study of Marxism-Leninism by the workers of the press, art, education and sciences is still insufficient. The state and social institutions and the corresponding trade unions must devote more attention to this important task.

During the 5-year period advances have been made in the school levels of the party's cadres. The first congress agreement that the majority of them needed to reach the higher intermediate level was fulfilled--75.5 percent of them now have reached this level in comparison to 16 percent in 1975. The cadres who have not yet reached this level must continue studying to reach it. The education of the party's militants and candidates is also very favorable, especially if we compare it to that which existed in 1975 when 60.3 percent of the party's members had only an elementary school education. We have been able to have 80.7 percent of the militants fulfill the agreement of the first congress--in other words, they have an eighth grade education or more.

These achievements notwithstanding, all the party's leadership organs must push study so that the majority of the militants who have no physical or mental impediments may get a ninth grade education. It is also important that they instill and encourage technical-professional education and study at the work centers. We must reiterate that to study, to learn is a permanent duty of all communists.

As a result of the agreements of the first party congress, the teaching of Marxism-Leninism has developed favorably in the national education system. Hundreds of teachers have been trained and a great effort has been made in other areas of the work. In order to eradicate the deficiencies that still exist and increasingly improve this type of activity, we must pay utmost attention to the training of teachers to guarantee that in the coming 5-year period the teaching of Marxism-Leninism is extended to 100 percent of the student body. [We must] increase the level of training of these teachers, develop the methodological counseling they require and solve their book needs.

The results of Marxist-Leninist theory research in this 5-year period have fallen short. Research must be improved. The amount of research must be increased. We must ensure that the problems selected are closely linked to the needs of socialist construction in our country, strengthen scientific institutions engaged in research and publicize and implement the results obtained.

The party's control and review committees at the national provincial level have been in operation for the past year and a half. We have begun this work with a reduced number of cadres, making careful and thorough analyzes of each case and hence gain the necessary experience to extend an activity as delicate as this. The results obtained are positive and encouraging. The purity of the party has been rigorously defended while some errors and injustices against militants and candidates have been redressed. Review work has played an important role in the control of finances and resources administered by party. In the coming years, the work of these organs, guided by the most absolute sense of justice, will continue to be developed and broadened.

We are pleased to state that at the top levels of the party, the principles of collective leadership have been solidly applied. Both the Politburo and the Secretariat of our party have met hundreds of times these past years. The Central Committee has unfailingly held the corresponding plenums. The most varied topics related to the state, party and international affairs have been analyzed collectively. No important matter was decided without this method. The rigor with which this essential principle of Marxism-Leninism is observed within our leadership is really exemplary and a source of pride. Theere has not been the slightest sign of splintering within our leadership and the principles of internal democracy, democratic centralism and the strictest discipline rule the life of our party. [applause]

We have grown a great deal in recent times and we have grown well. We have not sacrificed nor will we ever sacrifice quality for quantity. If today there are more of us who shoulder this high responsibility of being militants and candidates to membership in the country, this is only a measure of how the revolutionary spirit and exemplarity have grown within our people.

What difficulty will we fail to overcome with this impressive force? We must, above all, preserve the revolutionary morale, authority, presitge and example of the communist militants. And we will increasingly attain this to the extent that our role as communists consists in being first at work, sacrifice, selflessness and revolutionary modest. [applause]

We will be the vanguard, not because of our opinion of ourselves but because of the people's opinion of us.

It is a difficult but worthy and stimulating task to be the vanguard in a nation of vanguards; [applause] to be communists in a nation of communist. [applause] The deepest and most permanent link with the masses was, is and should always be the compass guiding our party. [applause] Let us all pledge to become guardians of the revolutionary purity of our party, our unity and our ideology. [applause] We will not only serve our own fatherland, but also the cause of socialism and communism in the world.

In a certain period of this 5-year period, it was evident that our country was being infected by some bugs. Perhaps some thought that the institutionalization, the socialist legality, the establishment of people's governments and the implementation of the economic management and planning system would by themselves effect miracles; is thought that things would automatically go much better without the unavoidable and fundamental effort of man.

Something worse developed: signs of progressive weakening of the spirit of austerity, a softening, a lack of urgency; privileges, accommodation and other manifestations of this sort became apparent while work discipline declined. The worst of our enemies could not have hurt us more. Was our revolution by an chance falling into a degenerative process at the very doors of our imperialist enemy? Was this an inexorable rule for an revolution in power? This could not be so under any circumstances. Nor could it be allowed. This showed that firmness can never be neglected in any revolution. The problems were publicly discussed. Measures were taken; we began to overcome those harmful tendencies, but this is not enough. We must be permanently on our guard and keep our state of alert at the highest level and observe the most rigorous firmness against all petit bourgeois spirit, accommodation, relaxation of revolutionary discipline and any sign of corruption, no matter how insignificant it may seem. [applause]

This should serve as a warning and example. The people's unanimous support in the struggle for firmness and against all manifestation of softening and accommodation, demonstrates how deeply the moral principles of the revolution have taken hold in our people and that our process, far from weakening, is constantly strengthening. Eternal vigilance is not only the price of freedom, as someone said, it is also the price of revolution. [applause] The communist and international consciousness of our people has unquestionably deepened in recent years. When we say this we are not only or maily speaking of the important progress registered in cultural and theoretical education, we are speaking, above all, of the specific actions by which our masses demonstrate this consciousness. We find throughout the country today a superior spirit for work, organization, firmness, combativeness and revolutionary intransigence. This is especially evident in our working class. The attitude of the intellectual workers has also been sparkling. Tens of thousands of teachers, professors, physicians and other professionals and technicians are engaged in selfless work in this country, and they enthusiastically volunteer to go on difficult and honorable missions abroad. Hundreds of thousands of FAR combatants and reservists have expressed their fervent wish to participate in the internationalist aid given to fraternal countries that are the victims of aggressions. Like them millions of fellow countrymen are known today by a stance in life that is genuinely proletarian, austere, collectivist, honest and disciplined.

This does not mean, however, that we have always done our best in our political and ideological work, much less that we can act as if we were triumphant and sit back with our arms crossed. We must understand the characteristic circumstances in which Cuba has for over 20 years waged its confrontation with imperialism in the realm of ideas. The presence, a few miles from our coasts, of the richest and most aggressvie capitalist country in the world--the paradise of individualism, gambling, drugs, prostitution and other alienating social disgraces--forces us to courageously accept an open and permanent challenge. Historically, the United States was the great enemy of our nationhood. Since the first half of the 19th century, Spanish colonial domination on one hand, and on the other hand the existence of a native-born class that owned most of the coffee and sugarcane plantations, and hundreds of thousands of slaves, engendered in our country powerful annexationist currents that opposed independence. For many of those landowners, it was more important to safeguard the slave system by joining the United States than to have national independence. They feared a slave uprising in a fight for independence and the loss of their economic and social privileges, or that Spain, pressured by England, would free the slaves. This explains why Cuba was the last country in Latin America to become independent of Spanish domination, almost 100 years after the rest of Spain's colonies had become independent.

Annexionationism, however, failed to halt the development of a strong patriotic movement that demonstrated in the heroic wars of 1868 and 1895 its strength and its desire for freedom. Yankee intervention, the Platt Amendment, the seizure of the country's wealth, and the establishment of a neocolonial regime thwarted the desires of our people and translated into a heavy blow to the national spirit. In practice we were annexed to the United States. The Yankee system, ideology, laws, culture, habits, customs, prejudices and vices became our neocolonial and dependent way of life. Our economy became simply an appendage of U.S. monopolistic capital. We became a sort of Yankee property.

Prior to 1959 innumerable Cubans wanted to emigrate from the underdeveloped country to the metropolis. Numerous restrictions imposed by the United States limited this economic migration to a few tens of thousands. When the revolution triumphed, the United States opened its doors wide to receive war criminals, torturers, embezzlers of the public treasury, landowners, house owners, big businessmen and bourgeoisie of all kinds. But it also made huge efforts to deprive us of engineers, physicians, managerial personnel and even mid-level technicians and skilled workers. It was thus taking advantage of being the world's most developed and richest country, with much higher wages and standard of living than Cuba, to try to bleed our people of skilled workers and to try to do away with the revolutionary process.

It linked this policy to the economic blockade, to threats and to all types of aggression. The revolution accepted the challenge bravely and authorized the departure of all those who wished to leave. We were ready to create a new fatherland and to carry out the socialist revolution with absolutely free and willing men and women, as we devoted ourselves to the task of developing our universities and other study centers to train hundreds of thousands of experts and skilled workers.

Millions of people--the vast majority of our people-decided to live here faced with the economic blockade and threatened with extermination, rather than abandon their fatherland. It was our socialist revolution, with its heroic and self-sacrificing struggle, which thus forged once and for all in Cuba the national and patriotic spirit. A new generation of doctors, engineers, professors, teachers and technicians of all kinds has been trained in the years of the revolution, alongside those other workers and intellectuals who remained loyal to the fatherland. Today we have an infinitely higher number of these men and women. They are most capable, more aware and more revolutionary. Today our technicians even serve in more than 30 countries.

But imperialism has not stopped fighting against the national Cuban spirit and continues to put it to the test. To do so, it crudely flaunts its wealth, which is primarily derived from plundering the resources and exploiting the labor of the world's underdeveloped countries. It constantly resorts to bribery and urges our country's citizens to commit treason and to desert. It also takes advantage of the fact that tens of thousands of families are separated. While, on the one hand, it stringently restricts legal trips to the United States, on the other--for brazen publicity reasons--it encourages, publicizes and justifies as heroic acts the illegal departures, regardless of the fact that they might have been by means of hijacked vessels, of hostages and of horrible murders.

Despite the gigantic efforts made by the revolution in the area of economic and social development, especially in education, there are still some social remnants of the past--individuals lacking all national roots. To this may be added the fact that socioeconomic conditions in our developing country still generate antisocial, displaced and lumpen elements, who by their very nature are susceptible to the lures and the ideas of imperialism. Therefore, between the imperialist enemy and the Cuban revolution there is and will be for a long time to come a bitter ideological struggle which will be waged not only in the arena of revolutionary and political ideas, but also in the field of our people's patriotic and nationalist feelings.

They will not resign themselves to the idea of a socialist and revolutionary Cuba, to a Cuba which liberated itself forever from the United States, to a Cuba which resisted and gained stature in the struggle against the Yankee giant, to a Cuba where partriotic feeling is deeper, stronger and more lasting than ever.

It is true that our country lives humbly, without luxuries or waste, but we have an unshakable faith in the fairness of our ideas, our dignity and our moral character, and we feel capable of challenging with these virtures all the rottenness of the so-called imperialist consumer society. [applause]

This time the imperialists have run up against the fiber and muscle of our people. [applause] This time they were not able to snatch experts and skilled personnel from us; this time they had to take the dregs of our society. [prolonged applause]

The combative people's marches and the masses' participation in reaction to the provocations of the Peruvian and Venezuelan Embassies, to the Mariel operation and to the Yankee military threats will go down in history. Never before in the life of our fatherland had such gigantic mass mobilizations taken place. Once again they understimated the level of awareness attained by our people. The revolution and the masses decided to accept the challenge once and for all. We reacted to the imperialist propaganda campaign in connection with the events at the Peruvian Embassy with utmost serenity. The antisocial elements themselves, who initially were described as dissidents by the capitalist press agencies, showed what they really were and all the lies were shown to be completely ridiculous. The people gave a show of strength, unity, awareness, fighting spirit and discipline which cannot be surpassed. The youths in particular distinguished themselves in this great ideological and political battle and won with honor their first revolutionary laurels. While Cuba was engaged in the biggest cleanup campaign in its history, the masses and the revolution gained extraordinary strength. [applause] This process deepened the patriotic spirit and the desire to defend at any price the principles of socialism and proletarian internationalism. It also helped to promote the struggle for production and disipline, and the efforts to solve our own internal weaknesses. The enemy learned once again that it is impossible to challenge our people with impunity. We look upon the struggle waged by the masses in April and May of this year as one of the most important political, ideological and moral victories achieved by the revolution in its entire history. As we already have said, it is noteworthy that this struggle had a favorable impact on national efforts to solve a series of ideological problems that had been growing recently. The people's repudiation of the scum also meant, to a great extent, a repudiation of the lack of discipline, of social parasites, of easy living, of negligence and of other negative conditions from which we were suffering. This attitude was linked to the political, legal, wage and administrative measures adopted during the last few months and has made it possible to increase significantly demands and promote order among our society. Of course, this is not a campaign which will be completed overnight. Our goal is to carry out with utmost precision the efforts we have undertaken and to find final solutions to these problems.

Under the current circumstances, it is not possible to make a final assessment of the policy with regard to the Cuban community abroad. After the profound anger stirred up in the bosom of our people by the events resulting from the repeated provocations at the Venezuelan and Peruvian Embassies, the visits have been curtailed to a minimum. Our policy in this connection will depend on the attitude assumed by the new U.S. administration. We will see whether Mr Reagan will or will not suspend the rights of U.S. citizens to travel to Cuba. Visits to Cuba by those born in this country must also be limited strictly to those who in no way whatsoever have acted in a hostile manner against their native land, who have not left the country illegally, and who are also capable of displaying irreproachable respect for the revolution. [applause]

Drastic measures will be taken against those who try to engage in any counterrevolutionary activity. We will renounce any considerations of economic advantage related to these visits. [applause] One of the factors which at one point contributed to a certain slackening in economic and social activity was the frequent lack of a sufficiently critical and self-critical attitude. As we have stressed, this phenomenon became evident in various areas and also included the party to some extent. A formalist, conformist and essentially petit bourgeois attitude of not finding fault with anyone gained ground in certain areas, as if the revolution were not a constant search to find fault with everything that is unfair and wrong [applause].

In the area of administration this trend also had a negative impact on labor discipline, on control and on the appropriate use of resources. It has been said repeatedly and with good reason that our political and ideological work cannot be performed in the abstract and must be permanently linked to the specific economic, social, domestic and international problems which crop up at a given time.

At the same time that we continue the theoretical training of the cadres, the party members and all the people, and while we continue our unbending defense of Marxism-Leninism and the struggle against those who distort it, we are called upon to pay special attention to the economic education of the workers within the framework of the principles and laws of socialism; to the moral training of children and young people, and to strengthening the communist and internationalist awareness of all our fellow countrymen. We must continue to pay special attention to and promote voluntary work, since it is an essential factor in creating the new attitude toward work and society.

In a general sense, experiences during this last 5-year period reinforce our conviction that factors of a moral nature must continue to hold a very special place in our revolution. These make us invulnerable to bourgeois ideology, strengthen our spirit to deal with the threats and aggressions of the enemy, and turn the entire people into an invincible army, ready to fight for their cause to their last breath.

Our party, aware of the importance of this factor, is waging a firm ideological struggle. As part of that struggle, during the years since the first congress we have systematically engaged in work involving plans, campaigns, exhibitions and mass events dealing with or commemorating great events, such as the 11th World Youth and Students Festival, the Sixth Summit Conference of Nonaligned Countries, the 60th Anniversary of the October Revolution, the Combative People's March and the joint Soviet-Cuban space flight [applause].

The theme of the economic education of the workers has been prominently discussed in our mass media and in all the party propaganda. However, we must still go much further in this connection. Our propaganda must pay even greater attention to the problems of production; it must disseminate the best experiences and it must in general perform more in-depth and coherent work. The ideological training of the masses, especially of youths and children, in the principles of socialist patriotism and of proletarian internationalism, requires systematic efforts in which the dissemination of historical events plays an important role. These are aimed at showing how our revolutionary process combines the purest national and patriotic traditions with the universal principles of socialism, and how the Cuban revolution is part of the worldwide revolutionary movement. To help in this task the party has promoted the History Activists' Movement. The principles of internationalism have been discussed widely and consistently through our work of revolutionary guidance. We have made every effort to project a true image of the Cuban revolution abroad; to set forth our successes, our weaknesses and problems, as well as the achivements of socialism in all areas of economic and social activity.

Our people have made impressive strides in the area of political culture and are receiving adequate information on the major aspects of the international situation. We will continue to advance in our efforts to educate all the people with regard to the scientific laws of nature and society in order to uproot old prejudices and at the same time to begin to instill new customs and habits tending to strengthen fraternal and solidarity relations within our socialist society.

In recent years the party has increasingly developed the tools for more effective work in the area of providing information to the cadres and party members regarding important problems requiring their attention. We now have a system involving 7,000 nonprofessional lecturers which has considerably helped in this task. We are working to assure the adequate theoretical training of propagandists and to systematically improve their work. Regarding the party's editorial work, in recent years we have published more than 600 titles on political and ideological subjects. We have implemented a far-reaching plan to disseminate and promote this literature through the establishment of libraries at the level of our rank and file organizations. The party's graphic propaganda has made great strides, but still has room for improvement in its content and artistic quality. We have an effective system for organizing and holding events, exhibits and other political activities. We have upheld the work of the people's opinion groups as a way of looking into and learning about the people's ideas on specific problems. This activity can be an effective tool in the party's work and requires further development.

The party has given priority attention to improving the quality and the political and ideological level of what the mass media disseminates. In order to better fulfill the thesis of the first congress regarding the press, radio, television and the cinema, we have approved certain documents, among them the politburo resolution on the attention to be paid to the party newspaper and to other press organs; the norms for the circulation and distribution of publications; the definition of the format and design of newspapers and magazines; the policies pertaining to radio and television programming; and the principles and norms of counterpropaganda work.

During these years the mass communications media have made great gains in fulfilling the tasks incumbent upon them in the area of our socioeconomic development and in the ideological confrontation with imperialism.

Our press has continued to expand. A special effort has been made to give each province its own newspaper, including the special municipality of the Isle of Youth.

The daily circulation of these organs today amounts to more than 264,000 issues. New publications devoted to children and youth, to the workers and to the dissemination of state and scientific information have appeared. The circulation of the national press has grown and currently stands at 930,000 issues daily. The availability of newspapers now accounts for a national average of eight readers per issue. The results of the efforts to distribute 1.2 million issues daily and more than 5 million magazines and tabloids every month are noteworthy. In accordance with the country's capabilities, during the next few years we must turn our attention to the need to modernize the technical bases of our press.

The newspaper GRANMA has distinguished itself in the fulfillment of its mission to keep our people informed, to guide them, and to contribute actively to their education and to strengthening their revolutionary awareness. In addition to these important tasks, our Central Committee's official mouthpiece has fulfilled the task of serving as a constant example for applying the party's guidelines in the other mass communications media. The magazine EL MILITANTE COMUNISTA has been able to publish more in-depth and relevant articles.

Noteworthy in the development of radio and television are: the establishment of new municipal radio stations; two specialized stations for students in schools in the field; increased color programming on television; and the merger of Channel 2 and Tele-Rebelde to take better advantage of technical and human resources. Investments in equipment have enabled both media to make great technological gains, especially with regard to radio.

Radio Havana Cuba has maintained the high political, ideological and professional level of its programming, broadcasting to the world in eight languages the truth about the Cuban revolution. It has expanded its programming by 27 percent despite a reduction in personnel. Efforts have been made to improve the quality of programming and to fulfill the agreements of the first congress and of the eighth plenum in this area. Programs for children and youth, information programs, and programs on cultural events have increased. Sports programming has been expanded and diversified. The production of national television programs has increased and this type of programming now accounts for 60 percent of all programming. Dramatic series of acknowledged high quality have been aired, although we must make a sustained effort to achieve greater stability. The number of movies from the socialist bloc has increased in television programming, as have programs transmitted by satellite. During the 5-year period we instituted summer programming.

We are not completely satisfied, however, with the work of our press and the mass media. There are still many weaknesses. We must improve the quality of the work, both with regard to the information and with regard to analysis and criticism.

Because of its importance to the party's ideological work, we must make special mention of the efforts which have been made by the History Institute of the Communist Movement and the Cuban Socialist Revolution. In its 6 years of work, this institute has laid the groundwork for its scientific activities and has been engaged in far-reaching historical research. As a result of this research, valuable works have been published and other important works are being printed or have already been edited.

In general we have made progress in the area of ideological work. But we must continue our efforts and overcome the weaknesses which still exist. It is important to improve the work of the party's rank-and-file organizations in this area and to work so that each cell and each communist will be an active defender and propagandist of party policy. It is also necessary to make all ideological work more comprehensive and to use in a more coherent manner the political education system, the methods and means of propaganda and agitation, the mass communications media, the various forms of culture and sports, and recreation and other channels for this work.

Ideology is above all awareness. Awareness means a combative attitude, dignity, and revolutionary principles and morals. Ideology is also the reason for the struggle against all that is wrong; against all weaknesses, privileges and immorality. For all revolutionaries, the ideological struggle today represents the frontline of battle, the first revolutionary trench. Socialism is a new system in human history. Born barely a few decades ago, its existence was threatened from the very beginning by imperialist hostility, intervention and aggression. Fascism was brutally bent on destroying the first socialist state when that state was barely 24 years old. The socialist bloc emerged from the ruins and rubble which the Nazi hordes left behind them in the most heavily destroyed areas in Europe, which were not part of the more industrially developed areas on the continent.

The circumstances under which socialist ideas have had to forge their path have by no means been easy or propitious. The enemy has never ceased fighting against socialism by all available means. In the military arena, it has forced socialist countries to invest vast amounts for defense. In the political arena, it has never slackened in its efforts to subvert, destabilize and discredit socialist countries. This reality cannot be underestimated, and our country, which is so close to the United States, should be the last to underestimate it. Only the most consistent application of Marxist-Leninist principles can make us strong, invulnerable, invincible.

Our state is a state of workers who exercise power in a revolutionary manner. The party and its members can never lose sight of the strongest, closest and deepest ties with the masses. They cannot lose sight of the most stringent criticism and self-criticism. They cannot lose sight of collective leadership, of internal democracy, of democratic centralism and of the most stringent discipline. They cannot lose sight of austerity, of the spirit of self-sacrifice, of unselfishness, of modesty, of honesty, of a solidarity attitude and of the heroism which should characterize all communists. A communist must be an indefatigable fighter; he must be convinced of the unquestionable justice of his cause, studious, hard-working and demanding; he must have deep commitments and be devoted entirely to his people. The party only exists by virtue of the people and for the people.

Bureaucratic methods and a petit bourgeois attitude are completely foreign to its principles. Among the cadres, the party members and the people there should be the strongest and most indissoluble ties, based primarily on good example and on the certainty that a revolutionary lives and dies for his people. Authoritarianism, demagogy, self-sufficiency, vanity, irresponsibility--these are all inconceivable in a communist. A fraternal and humane attitude should be one of his basic characteristics. Above all, there should be internationalist awareness, which does not exclude the strongest patriotism, but which recognizes that above the individual is the fatherland, and above the fatherland is humanity. [applause]

A communist party in power could make or tolerate serious mistakes of principle and those mistakes have always been very damaging to the revolutionary process. History has demonstrated it. Real betrayals have been perpetrated that have inflicted profound wounds on the world revolutionary movement. Is socialism in a country irreversible? It is absolutely irreversible if the principles are applied? Our people have demonstrated that. In the face of Yankee imperialism itself we have not been frightened by its might. We have not been blinded by its wealth. Its ideology has not been able to penetrate our ranks. Its actions have not destabilized us.

Isn't it true that we have made mistakes? Yes, we have made mistakes. Can we say that we have been consistent in the strict application of each and every principle? That we are exemplary communists, without blemishes or mistakes even if made as a result of incapacity, indifference or ignorance? No, we are far from that. But the proven honesty and loyalty to principles of the Cuban revolutionaries and their devotion to their people is beyond question. Our party's close ties with the masses make it very strong, and the consistent decision of applying its principles makes it invincible. [applause]

On the other hand, in our country the Marxist-Leninist ideas are deeprooted with the patriotic and heroic traditions of our people. For us, Cespedes, Agramonte, Gomez, Maceo and Marti are inseparable from Marx, Engels and Lenin. In our consciousness they are united as the patriotic and internationalist thoughts, as the national freedom, equality and social justice, as a country's history and world history, as the fatherland and mankind.

The foundations of the country which today builds socialism were made by our glorious forefathers with sweat, blood and heroism. In the fatherland that they forged yesterday, today we are doing the same thing they would be doing.

Let us follow the example of the great builders of the fatherland and the creators of a new world. Let us loyally follow their ideas and there will be no force on earth capable of separating our party from our people and our people from the path of revolution. [applause]

In practice there is a lot to be created in building socialism and many problems to be solved, but our concepts have already demonstrated themselves to be superior and infinitely more humane than the capitalist concepts. The course of history is irreversible. Capitalism with its egotism, its crimes and its vices will disappear, as the feudal and slave societies disappeared. Even though a country might regrees at times, mankind will never regress.

Comrades, since the first congress of our party 5 years ago, important events have taken place in the international economic arena, including the gravest crisis experienced by capitalism since World War II, with subsequent stagnation and inflation and the worsening of living conditions in the underdeveloped world. During the past two decades imperialist monopolies have expanded their operations to an ever-more gigantic and internationalized scale. They have markedly increased their share of the market and extended to practically all branches of production and services. The enormous accumulation of capital of the monopolies was translated into investments which gave rise to important changes in the structures of economic activities of the developed capitalist world. The huge profits of the monopolies also triggered the processes of economic internationalism whose principal vehicle has been the so-called transnational companies, imperialist monopolies characterized by the impressive magnitude of their financial, technical and organizational resources, by the worldwide scale of their operations, and by the degree of geographic and sectorial diversification with which they carry out their activities.

None of these changes occuring in the capitalist world would have been possible without the upsurge of monopolist state capitalism.

The increased merging of the interests of the monopolies and the state apparatus has acquired a decisive importance during the past three decades. The refusal of the government of the developed capitalist powers to make the slightest concession to underdeveloped countries which have been struggling for years for a new international economic order reflects the role that the states play in the hands of the big monopolies, the ones that are really interested in preserving an economic order like the present one based on the exploitation and plundering of the natural resources and the labor of the so-called Third World nations. The development of the so-called military-industrial complex represents the most dangerous expression of the rise in this merging of the interest of states and monopolies.

The 1974-75 crisis gave rise to a subsequent period of economic instability and stagnation coupled with a constant inflationary increase in prices. In other words, the uncommon phenomenon of stagnation coupled with inflation. The financial oligarchies dominating in the imperialist world have been unable to return to the growth rates of the 60's and early 70's, or to prevent the rise in unemployment. The predictions made by their most reputable experts for the coming year and the year after are increasingly pessimistic. And they have not been able to control inflation although, all things considered, inflation is one of the resources used by the monopolies to augment their profits despite the crisis, at the expense of reducing the real wages of workers and at the expense of accentuating the unequal trade with underdeveloped countries.

The unemployment rate of the countries that belong to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, OECD, grouping the principal imperialist powers, including the United States, and other capitalist, less-developed countries such as Spain, Portugal, Greece and Turkey, was, according to official figures, 3 percent between 1960 and 1973. It rose to approximately 5.2 percent between 1974 and the first quarter of 1980. This means approximately 24 million unemployed. Predictions are that the figure will rise to between 25 and 27 million by the end of 1981

In the United States alone, more than 8 million citizens are out in the streets looking for work. It is estimated that 30 percent of the labor force in Latin America is completely unemployed. Unemployment markedly affects those who are joining the job market for the first time, namely, the young. In addition, this situation is more acute in the United States among blacks, Hispanics and other minorities.

In general, the unemployment rate in underdeveloped countries normally ranges from 15 to 40 percent of the population able to work. Lacking exact statistics, we may assume that at present this situation is even more extreme. Moreover, the rate of unemployment in the countries of the OECD went from 7.9 percent in 1979 to 13.9 percent in mid-1980. Another element in the current capitalist crisis involves what is already emerging as a real crisis for neocolonialism.

The case of OPEC is revealing. The rise in oil prices generated a finacial flow toward the OPEC nations--unequally distributed, but nevertheless impressive. This influx of resources, however, could not be fully utilized by those countries owing to the characteristics of their socioeconomic structures, the narrow range of their markets and their technical limitations in absorbing more than measured does of productive capital. The outcome was the emergence of a financial surplus which, according to estimates, appears to have averaged some $36 billion a year between 1974 and 1978. It rose to $61 billion in 1979 and it will probably reach some $115 billion in 1980.

Instead of being recycled in a manner to benefit underdeveloped countries, these surpluses were basically directed to the developed capitalist countries where they were used in short-term and high liquidity investments, especially in the United States, Western Europe and the so-called Eurodollar market.

As a result of these events, the developed capitalist economies were not as negatively affected by the rise in oil prices, since the recycling of surpluses enabled them to offset the corresponding impact on their balance of payments. In contrast, underdeveloped countries which import petroleum were not able to do this and were forced to endure not just the traditional unequal trade--made worse by inflation--but also the high annual cost of oil imports. The way in which OPEC countries with a surplus have acted, however, does not diminish the historic importance of that organization's actions.

The fact is that for the first time in the postwar era, a group of underdeveloped countries dependent to varying degrees on capitalist centers was able to deal a blow against neocolonialist structures, thanks to the current correlation of forces in the world and to the support of the other underdeveloped countries, reciprocity. The group has demanded its own price for its basic export product and has changed the rules of the imperialist game in a key sector. To the economic crisis has been added the crisis which broke out in 1971-73 in the area of monetary relations.

This may be explained by the fact that although the current monetary crisis was preceded by the imposition of the hegemony of the dollar by the United States and has been aggravated by the current economic situation in capitalist countries, it is really a reflection of contradictions which exist at the very heart of that system, especially the intermonopolistic and interimperialist rivalries which are today pitting, sometimes in a spectacular manner, the United States, the EEC and Japan in the fight for markets for the export of capital, merchandise and raw materials.

Furthermore, the monetary crisis has become an added burden to the underdeveloped countries--which are usually negatively affected by monetary instability--making their structural instability more acute, making their imports more expensive, making their exports cheaper and often diminishing their reserves when such reserves exist.

It should not be forgotten that the downfall of the capitalist monetary system did not even have as a positive effect the elimination of the IMF, which has survived the crisis stemming from the agreement which created it, among other reasons because it has been supported by the United States and by the other imperialist powers so that they can use it as a true monetary and financial gendarme of the underdeveloped world. The IMF, taking advantage of the difficult position of petroleum-importing underdeveloped countries which are currently overburdened by growing deficits in their balance of payments and by an overwhelming foreign debt, is imposing on these countries, among other things, abusive conditional clauses aimed at promoting the most reactionary and anti-popular internal policies and at turning these countries into easier victims of imperialist dependence and exploitation.

Another event which merits due reflection as a characteristic feature of the current world economic situation is the serious financial crisis being experienced by the underdeveloped countries which import petroleum. This is a crisis without precedent, as shown by the fact that the deficit in current accounts of the balance of payments of those countries, which stood at some $12 billion in 1973, averaged more than $42 billion between 1974 and 1978. It reached $53 billion in 1979 and it is estimated that it will reach $70 billion in 1980. As a result, the foreign debt of these countries went from $118 billion in 1973 to $343 billion in 1979. It is estimated that it will be considerably more than $400 billion in 1980.

This crisis gives rise to a situation which is not the result of contingent factors, but is rather the result of structural conditions linked to the very nature of underdevelopment and dependence. We must note that on the basis of the existing financial mechanisms, this crisis is a problem for which there is no solution. How are these deficits and these enormous debts financed? They are primarily financed with funds derived from the so-called official assistance for development, which represent a meager 0.3 percent of the gross domestic product of the capitalist powers; with an influx of private foreign investments; with official loans; and for a dozen countries, with commercial loans from international banks. In other words, these huge deficits are wiped out by being constantly at the mercy of the always unpredictable and usually meager contributions of a handful of capitalist powers; by accepting the usually predatory conditions of the major financial consortiums; by pawning the peoples' natural resources and labor; by mortgaging present and future exports; and by cutting back on imports needed for development and for the very survival of the vast majority of the people. In short, these deficits are wiped out by more dependence, more indebtedness, more exploitation and more underdevelopment. This is the plain and honest truth about the situation.

It must then be asked: What are the prospects imperialism can offer to the underdeveloped world? In this respect, it is significant that the World Bank, that organ of the United States and the imperialist powers whose demogogic positions are well known, says that by 1990, 10 years from now, the deficit in the current account of the balance of payments of underdeveloped countries will have reached almost $128 billion a year. The World Bank even estimates how this monstrous figure could be financed: 66.6 billion with the so-called official development funds; 16.4 billion through outside private investment, and 44.7 billion through commercial bank loans.

As can be observed, the World Bank is not attempting to solve the problem. It merely projects the problem into the future in a magnified way. This position, however, has a deep-rooted strategic purpose. Imperialism expects to face the underdeveloped world's ever growing financial difficulties by turning those difficulties into a juicy deal. In other words, by perpetuating the dependence of that underdeveloped world by means of niggardly development aid, and, especially, exploiting the situation in such a way that it will bring imperialism the most benefit through the profits of private foreign investment and the payment of interest on bank loans.

In accordance with this imperialist strategy, backwardness and underdevelopment would persist, as would hunger and poverty, unequal trade; deficits and debts would increase. The underdeveloped world would remain the same, only more underdeveloped than ever. Imperialism would remain the same, only richer, and humanity would remain the same, only with 1 billion more people living in the most abject poverty.

As Cuba stated at the FAO conference on Latin America, every 5 days there are more than 1 million new inhabitants. Of these, 90 percent live in the underdeveloped countries which have the largest deficits, are technically backward and have fewer material resources available for food production. This world population which is now 4.3 billion people will increase in the next 20 years to approximately 6.4 billion. Of this total, 80 percent--or more than 5 billion--will live in the countries that currently comprise the so-called Third World. It is estimated that in underdeveloped countries approximately 25 million children under 5 years of age die each year. The immense majority die of curable diseases and hunger.

Forests are reduced at a rate of almost 20 million hectares per year. Because of erosion, loss of organic material, salinization and other factors, deserts and arid regions spread at a rate of millions of hectares a year. This is the equivalent of the total agricultural land of Cuba. Agricultural land per capita in the world 10 years ago was 0.5 hectares. In the next 20 years it will be 0.25.

At the initiative of the nonaligned countries movement, the program for a new international economic order was approved in the form of a declaration by the UN General Assembly in 1974. However, after more than 6 years of negotiations, little progress has been made in the revindications demanded in the program.

The capitalist powers, through their representatives to different UN bodies, systematically have refused to accept even one of the just demands of the underdeveloped countries and lately have not even wanted to reach an agreement with them on the central points and the manner in which problems are to be discussed in a new round of negotiations proposed by the movement of nonaligned countries and the underdeveloped countries in general.

One benefit of the struggle for a new international economic order, however, is the unification of the underdeveloped countries into a single front. Considering the heterogeneousness of their economic, political and social factors, this phenomenon can only be explained on the basis of a generalized contradiction between these countries and imperialism. This contradiction includes the governments of countries that are allies of imperialism and in the periphery of the underdeveloped and dependent world, but which are no longer willing to endure without certain changes the system of inequity and exploitation to which the capitalist powers' monopolies subject them.

In the face of the strategy of the most reactionary circles of imperialism, the united action of the underdeveloped world, of the socialist countries, of the entire planet's progressive forces and even of the most lucid sectors in the developed capitalist powers becomes essential in order to confront the serious crisis that today prostrates mankind.

At the 34th period of sessions of the UN General Assembly, in October 1979, we proposed, in the name of the nonaligned countries' movement, the undelayable need to create an additional fund of no less than $300 billion at the real values of 1977, to be distributed in yearly quantities over the next 10 years in the form of donations and long-term soft loans among the underdeveloped countries.

In spite of the fact that more than 1 year has elapsed since that initiative was proposed, and despite the support obtained at various UN forums, a decision has not yet been made to set in motion the international mechanism that promotes such a flow of resources. Meanwhile, during this period, the situation in both the underdeveloped and developed world has continued to deteriorate. Each day, there are more voices uniting to demand a mass financial transfer of resources toward the underdeveloped countries, not only as a contribution to the solution of some of their most pressing problems, but also as a measure that might stimulate an effective demand capable of exerting a positive influence over the developed capitalist economies' stagnant situation.

A large-scale period of international cooperation must be opened in today's world if we really want to raise the standard of living of the peoples, to get most of mankind out of underdevelopment and to safeguard international peace.

The arms race must be stopped. The current stock of nuclear weapons is already enough to destroy the world many times, as was acknowledged a little more than 2 years ago in a UN report which also stated that the nuclear warheads stocked in the arsenals--not counting the so-called tactical nuclear weapons--represent an explosive potential which, conservatively estimated, is equivalent to 1.3 million times the bomb dropped in Hiroshima.

The arms expense figures are now both terrifying and hallucinating. These unrestrained expenses have created huge imbalances in the capitalist economy and constitute one of the key elements of the inflation hitting it. Tens of millions of people are dedicated to maintaining and increasing the war resources. These millions of individuals include hundreds of thousands of scientists, technicians and engineers, in some cases the most select of the entire world's qualified personnel.

Hundreds of millions of nonrenewable resources are being consumed in the arms race, including the world's most scarce resources of energy and raw materials. The annual expense for the preparations of a war now absorbs between 5 and 6 percent of the GNP of certain powers and during the 1970's it reached a yearly average of $350 billion, that is, about $1 billion per day, or $40 million per hour, almost $700,000 per minute. At present, for each one of us, for each inhabitant in this planet, about $90 are spent each year in weapons, that is, more than the annual per capita income of hundreds of millions of people in the underdeveloped world.

These expenses do not benefit anyone. They are totally unproductive and their periodically disposable results can be used only as scrap iron. This foolishness is impressive when contrasted with the financial requirements of the solutions to some of the most pressing problems afflicting the planet's population. This nonsensical arms race, which can explode any moment into the most destructive and universal holocaust, cannot continue. It is necessary to put an end to that suicidal policy if there is the desire to guarantee a future of peace and well being to all mankind.

The international policy, its complex development and our party's and government's actions in this area have been one of the constant concerns of the work carried out by the party's directorate in the 1976-80 period. The 5 years that have elapsed have been rich in developments. Numerous peoples have joined the increasing family of revolutionary and progressive countries.

In those final days of 1975, the firm and heroic struggle of Angola was still being waged. Under the direction of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola and of its President Agostinho Neto, the Angolan people achieved victory a few months later, causing a turnabout in Africa's political life, and opening new prospects for all the peoples of black Africa by helping to consolidate the independence of some and to strengthen the others' struggle for liberation. Despite the painful loss of President Neto, the strengthening of the Angolan revolution is one of the most promising developments of the recent African process.

The Ethiopian people's victory against the clumsy and treacherous Somali invasion promoted by Siad Barre's outrageous ambitions had enormous significance also. The consolidation of the Ethiopian revolutionary process under a firm revolutionary direction presided by the outstanding African fighter Mengistu Haile Mariam, [applause] who is now intent on constructing a Marxist-Leninist party, is destined to have an extraordinary reverberation in the African world.

Another African development of singular revolutionary significance was the victory of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front, which after a long armed struggle, with the determined support of the frontline countries and the solidarity of all progressive peoples, obtained from the UK Government an agreement that forced the racist Rhodesian minority to hold elections in which the people of Zimbabwe imposed their decision and managed to obtain a genuinely popular government presided over by Robert Mugabe. [applause]

Mozambique is consolidating its independence and is already advancing on the path of socialism under the leadership of the Mozambique Liberation Front and its brilliant and able leader, Samora Machel. [applause]

In Southeast Asia there was the defeat of the criminal Pol Pot and Ieng Sary gang which maintained Cambodia under oppression and inhuman treatment and which, with the support of China, represented an obstacle to the process of socialist construction in the former Indochina.

This victory of the Kampuchean people was threatened by Chinese military pressure that culminated with the unprincipled attack on Vietnam by the rulers of that country. The Vietnamese people, their party, their government and their armed forces once again contributed to the struggle for peace, national independence and socialism by inflicting on the invading Chinese forces a humiliating defeat. [applause]

In Afghanistan, the victory of the April 1978 revolution put an end to a proimperialist, reactionary and feudal regime and installed a popular and progressive government. Later, the shah, a gendarme of imperialism in the Middle East, was overthrown by the people of Iran in a heroic and admirable struggle.

Our region was the site of very significant struggles in the confrontation between the people and imperialism. After a persevering and heroic struggle, the Nicaraguan people, [applause] led by the Sandinist National Liberation Front, defeated the brutal Somozist tyranny and uprooted an exploiting and bloody regime created and sustained by U.S. imperialism. This made room for an authentic and profound popular, antioligarchic and anti-imperialist revolution.

The big turnover in Nicaragua followed the resounding popular victory of Grenada [applause] which took place a few months earlier under the leadership of the New Jewel Party and which gave vigor and stimulous to the former European colonies in the Caribbean.

The big popular victories that have taken place in these past 5 years must not cloud the vision we have of the international process. In particular, they must not lead us to errors regarding today's big threats to peace and to the national liberation of the people.

The threat to international detente from the most reactionary sectors of imperialism--a threat which was denounced by the first PCC congress--has become increasingly evident and has blocked the incipient and difficult process of international detente which was experienced in 1975 and which was decisively influenced by the Soviet Union's foreign policy of peace prepared during the 24th and 25th CPSU Congresses. This has resulted in the rising of the cold war threat and even in the possibility of a general international conflict.

The responsibility for this worsening of the international situation lays completely with imperialism, and especially with the U.S. imperialists. The United States has organized and prepared a worldwide campaign on the basis of an alleged USSR military superiority for the sole purpose of justifying new steps in the arms race by Washington and its allies.

U.S. imperialism, using the deadly position adopted by the Government of China and the treason of its leaders against the cause of socialism and internationalism, undertook the task of weaving an alliance between China, Japan and the United States against the Soviet Union.

The overthrow of the shah in Iran and the events of an evident popular and anti-imperialist process that followed in that country served as a pretext for Yankee imperialism to increase its presence in the Indian Ocean, to expand its military installations at the Diego Garcia base and to try to turn that area, vital to the world, into a U.S. domain.

This was followed by the steps of establishing bases in Kenya, Somalia, Egypt and Oman.

The United States promoted and imposed on the NATO countries an increase in their military budgets in 1978, at the same time that a few kilometers from Washington--where this decision was adopted--the United Nations was holding a special assembly on disarmament.

The United States obtained the consent of its European NATO allies for the establishment in Europe in the near future of 572 medium-range rockets aimed at the Soviet Union. This decision represents a very serious, adventuresome and dangerous step.

Let it be recalled that the presence of a few dozen medium-range missiles near the United States put the world on the brink of war in October 1962.

Also, in this period the United States decided to establish powerful interventionist forces called the rapid deployment forces, which constitute a threat to all the peoples of the world, especially those of the revolutionary, progressive peoples who are struggling for their liberation in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

This U.S. policy determines the U.S. position in the Middle East and keeps it in a position of opposition to the Palestinians' demand for their national rights and the Arab countries' hope of recovering the territories that Israel wrested from them. Since 1977 the United States has turned its back on the total negotiations regarding the Arab-Israeli problem and has been determined to impose the Camp David agreement and increase its opposition to the Palestinian cause.

Similarly imperialism is determined not to accept the democratic social changes that some Latin American and Caribbean peoples are carrying out in exercise of their independence. It has responded to the Sandinist revolution in Nicaragua and the revolutionary insurgency in El Salvador with an arrogant attempt to reaffirm its domination of Central America and the Caribbean, a zone which it dares to describe as being of special interest to the United States.

Using the pretext of the presence in Cuba of a small group of Soviet military personnel who had been coming to our country ever since the crisis of October 1962--a fact which was perfectly well-known to all the U.S. administrations since that date and which was brought to the fore in a demagogically and ill-intentioned manner during the sixth summit meeting [of the nonaligned countries]--the U.S. Government created a command post in Florida and established special forces designed to guarantee a rapid Yankee intervention in any Latin American country.

Other results of this great campaign was the approval of an increase of $42 billion in the military budget and the approval of the construction of the MX nuclear missile complexes at a cost of $33 billion. The blatant display of military force in all areas of the world and threatening language of the U.S. rulers were accompanied by the decision to postpone the ratification of the Salt II treaty.

All these events took place before the Afghanistan incidents. In that country, the ferocious provocations, the subversive actions and the interference of imperialists and the international reactionaries against the revolution--to which can be added the divisions and the serious errors of the Afghan revolutionaries--brought the situation to such a state that the aid of the USSR became necessary to save the process and preserve the conquests of the revolution of April 1978.

This served as a pretext for the United States to try to justify the warlike course of its foreign policy, which already had been implemented several years before and the adoption of additional aggressive measures against the USSR.

At present the new Afghan revolutionary leadership appears to be consolidating itself, and we hope that the situation in the area will advance to the point of normalization on the basis of full sovereignty, noninterference in its domestic affairs, peace and good relations among all the states of the region.

Cuba has made an effort to improve Afghanistan's relations with Pakistan and Iran, and all nonaligned countries, which could contribute to these objectives. Undeniably imperialism, seeking again to reverse the course of history, assumes with renewed aggressiveness the role of international gendarme and is putting a halt to the process of social and political changes in the world.

To this already tense and dangerous international panorama, the explosive situation created regarding Poland is now added. What is happening there is partially the result of the subversive policy of imperialism against the socialist countries and of its long-term plans to infiltrate, destabilize and liquidate socialism in the Eastern European countries, with the goal of weakening and isolating the USSR and if possible destroying socialism in the world.

In Poland, particularly, a sinister imperialist provocation against the socialist camp is being hatched. The successes achieved by the reaction in that country demonstrate, in a very eloquent manner, that a revolutionary party in power cannot stray from the principles of Marxism-Leninism, neglect its ideological tasks, or lose contact with the masses. [applause]

When the time comes to rectify things, it should not be done by making concessions to the internal or external class enemies. We maintain very firm hopes that the Polish party will be able to resolve Poland's situation with its internal forces. It is not the least bit questionable that the socialist camp has the right to safeguard its integrity, survive and resist [lengthy applause] to survive and resist, at whatever price, the onslaughts of imperialism.

But neither can one question the sacred duty of Polish Communists to resolve, with their own forces and on their own, the struggle brought about by the antisocialists and counterrevolutionaries. [applause]

Under the present international circumstances, it is the best service they can render not only to their own fatherland, but also to the cause of socialism, the world revolutionary and progressive movement, detente and peace. [applause]

We are confident that, above and beyond the mistakes made, the brave sons of that heroic people and their communist vanguard will recover from the initial setbacks and that, lifting their combative spirit with the support of the country's healthy forces and the use of the enormous moral patriotic and revolutionary reserves of their working class, they will be able to achieve that. [applause]

Under these circumstances, the 4 November elections in the United States acquire special relevance. These elections were held amid the disaster of the U.S. economy resulting from the permanent relapses into the crises that characterize the equally critical situation of the world economy. This led to mass unemployment for large sectors of the U.S. working class, particularly blacks and youths. It reduced the real income of all U.S. workers as a result of an uncontrolled inflation and elicited in many people a desire either for change or total indifference toward the elections.

The international situation, characterized by an increasing loss of U.S. hegemony and prestige, was skillfully exploited by the domestic political opponents. The feelings of frustration and skepticism among the people and even such factors as the hostages in Iran, the U.S. Government's mishandling [of this situation] , and the retention of the hostages at the end, all contributed to the defeat of the current administration.

Forty-seven point one percent of the voters abstained from voting in a country that boasts of its representative democracy. The Republican candidate was elected with the support of only 26.7 percent of the U.S. voters entitled to vote. It would be a mistake, however, not to acknowledge the reality expressed by the U.S. elections. Reagan's electoral victory is the victory of the right and it represents an evident slide in that direction by an important sector of the U.S. public opinion. This is confirmed by the fact that in the senatorial elections the most liberal senators were defeated, including several determined advocators of the approval of the SALT II treaties. With the apparent national support that his election provides Reagan, there is the danger that we might throw all caution to the winds and return to his earlier aggressive stances and to the most reactionary aspects of the Republican platform.

All these developments and the climate that they engender in the area of international politics, confirm the appreciations that we upheld at the first congress that the detente to which the peoples aspire, which constitutes an essential condition to the survival of mankind, is continually being threatened by the most reactionary sectors of imperialism, which have not resigned themselves to it.

The possibility of saving detente, however, has not been cancelled by this situation even though it makes it more difficult and endangers it. The possibility of [preserving] detente exists in the first place due to the firm and permanent peace policy of the Soviet Union with the collaboration of the socialist countries and their support of all of the world's progressive forces.

An essential element that no one can push aside is the fact that the USSR is fully capable of defeating any act of aggression aimed at subjecting it. A nuclear adventure against the Soviet Union would be suicidal for those who might be moved to attempt it. This is something that not even the most aggressive imperialists forget in their calculations. The very allies of the United States will not docilely support it along that path, for it would mean their own destruction in the first hours of a world war. [applause]

But it would not be sensible to push aside or to make less of the aggressive capacity of imperialism. It has a dangerous military arsenal, particularly a nuclear arsenal, which it strives to increase and improve technically. It also improves and increases its international military base network in all zones, arrogantly surrounding the Soviet Union.

The United States is working to reduce by all possible means the contradictions that exist within NATO, to reconstruct the system of military alliances in southeast, central and southwest Asia and to preserve the Rio de Janeiro treaty as an aggressive antisocialist pact.

The U.S. imperialist policy has an ally in the PRC Government. The leaders of that country are stimulating NATO's aggressiveness and advocating the increase and technical development of its weapons. They are inciting and helping the United States in the effort to turn Japan into a spearhead against the Soviet Union.

They do not conceal their continuing nuclear preparations and the development of their nuclear warheads missiles or to proclaim that the USSR is an enemy that must be destroyed. They are trying to expand through Southeast Asia; they are threatening their ASEAN neighbors and they have attacked Vietnam, thus forcing it to interrupt the national reconstruction and the socialist construction that it had peacefully undertaken in order to heroically defend its soil. It is playing the same role in Africa and in Latin America, where it has linked itself to the most reactionary forces, without turning back from friendship with the most repressive elements and the most corrupt regimes.

One must, therefore, prepare oneself for the serious difficulties that might arise in the international arena. Tens of thousands of atomic weapons hover like Damoclean swords over mankind. No period in the history of mankind has experienced anything similar. It could be affirmed that the most important problem of our day, for all peoples without exception, is the prevention of a new world war. Absurd as it may seem, inconceivable and catastrophic as its results may be, this danger exists. It is real. The peoples will not be indifferent to this danger.

In the struggle to preserve peace and to prevent a war that would be devastating for the world, the nonaligned movement can also play an important role. The fact that the majority of the countries is the international community, among them almost all developing countries, today comprise this movement, make it an international force that no one can ignore, as it is present, with increasing influence, in almost all of the world's developments.

Born from the secular struggle of the peoples who broke the chains of colonialism and foreign domination, the nonaligned movement has become an instrument of inestimable value for those who are intent on consolidating their independence and on overcoming backwardness and poverty.

The sixth conference of chiefs of state or of government of the movement's member countries which, to our honor, took place in Havana in September 1979, constituted a solid demonstration of the strength of the movement and of its influence on international politics. Despite the efforts made by U.S. imperialism to reduce the importance of that sixth summit meeting and to eliminate the movement's basic anti-imperialist direction, both in its general pronouncements and in the manner that it approached each of the specific international problems that it examined, the movement ratified not only its independent position but also its anti-imperialist nature. It also made a valuable contribution to peace and to the huge efforts currently underway to eliminate injustice, inequality, oppression and racism and to achieve the true social and economic development of developing countries.

In the wake of the summit conference, the movement has had to confront the insidious and systematic activities of the enemies of our peoples, who also try to take advantage of the complex international situation in order to sow division and to hinder and weaken our countries' joint actions.

Despite all obstacles, the nonaligned countries have continued striving to put into practice the decisions made at the sixth conference and they have preserved their unity. The presidency of the nonaligned countries' movement has fallen to Cuba at a time of intensification of the international tensions. Numerous conflicts have been developing. New centers of tension are emerging in various regions and contradictions confront certain nonaligned countries.

Meanwhile, the international economic crisis and the lack of solutions to the problems and difficulties of the underdeveloped countries make even more difficult the situation of the peoples of Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean.

Cuba has tried to find just and unity-oriented solutions to the differences that exist between certain member countries--which in certain cases even manage to bring them into opposition to each other--for it realizes that the internal unity of the movement is necessary in order for it to play its important role in international politics.

Believing the military confict between Iran and Iraq has entailed serious damage to both countries, and also represents a serious threat to the interests of peace in that region and throughout the world, while also economically affecting the underdeveloped countries that do not produce oil, Cuba decided, as soon as the conflict began and as part of its obligations as president of the movement, to offer to mediate. We will not cease in this effort as long as there is a possibility of contributing to the restoration of peace.

Acknowledgement of our stance has come not only from the two combatant countries, but also has had unanimous support within the movement and has deserved the approval of the international community. Cuba will continue to conscientiously fulfill its duties as president of the movement. To this end it has dedicated and will continue to dedicate its best efforts, in the certainty that under the present circumstances, it is the nonaligned countries' duty to reinforce their cohesion and solidarity and to redouble their struggle for peace and for a just economic order and a suitable solution to the pressing problems affecting our peoples.

Our position as a country that belongs to the vast group of underdeveloped and developing countries that have been termed the Third World is also expressed in the international arena through our sustained, firm and combative position on behalf of the demands of those countries.

During the past 5 years, Cuba has been present with representative and active delegations in all international forums where the problems affecting the relations between the industrialized and the developing countries are discussed. Efforts have been made to dissemble these contradictory relations under the deceitful name of North-South relations. However, one can hardly conceal the differences in nature between the exploitative relations that still persist between the former colonial countries and their imperialist successors and our exploited peoples and the relations linking the latter with the socialist countries. The battle for the new international economic order, when justly understood, is a continuation of the struggle for emancipation from colonialism and for the defeat of imperialist despoilation.

It is an incidental moment in that lengthy historical battle, but undoubtedly, at the present time in world history, it is necessary to stop and consider whether mankind should choose--in resolving these ancient problems that are now recorded--the path of confrontation or whether it should prefer the path of cooperation. This was the central theme of the speech that Cuba presented to the 24th UN General Assembly in the name of the movement of nonaligned countries.

This choice has not yet been made, and there is still time to try--although it is a very difficult and perhaps romantic and merely logical task--to coordinate the interests of the developed capitalist countries, of the socialist countries, and of the developing countries in order to arrive at constructive propositions, this would be an enormous service to the cause of peace.

As can be understood, it is not possible isolate Latin America and the Caribbean from the international situation as whole. However, where our area is directly concerned, we have tried to give the area's problems the emphasis which we think they deserve, particularly as regards relations with the common neighbor of our Latin American and Caribbean countries--the United States.

The first congress of our party highlighted the crisis being faced by U.S. foreign policy, as well as the unsurmountable conflict between U.S. imperialism and the interests of the Latin American and Caribbean countries. The continued economic crisis of international capitalism has made it even more obvious that the United States no longer has any chance of lulling the countries of the region with promises of reform. The oil-producing countries like Mexico and Venezuela are being subjected to U.S. pressure to sacrifice their long-term plans for the exploitation of their nonrenewable resources on behalf of the most immediate requirements of the Yankee economy, which is obstinately clinging to high consumption and the waste of energy resources.

The nonoil-producing underdeveloped countries, for their part, with uncontainable deficits in their balance of payments, are being subjected to the impositions of the IMF, directed from Washington, to force them to adopt policies that cause stagnation of their economic development while generating new misery and suffering for their workers.

The United States provides neither a market for products that might be produced independently by the American and Caribbean countries, nor financing for thei industrial development. The only solution that it offers as an option is continue dependence on the Yankee transnational companies, the continued deformation of the economies of area countries, and the perpetuation of their unbearable economic structures in which an oligarchic, monopolist minority enjoys over 80 percent of the national income that is left to the country after the foreign plunderers have extracted their portion.

U.S. imperialism offers to neocolonial Puerto Rico as an option, not freedom, but definitive annexation. This unalterable imperialist policy leads the United States to abandon the fallacious rhetoric of human rights and return to the support of the neofascist military regimes.

Reagan's election has serious and immediate repercussions on the Latin American political scene. In its international projections, faced with the decisive problems of war and peace, the United States will be compelled to take into account the true factors of the world situation; the undeniable potential of the socialist countries and the caution of their allies. On the Latin American scene, however, the U.S. imperialists feel freer to accomplish their reactionary purposes. This is the evident danger which Reagan's election poses for Latin America.

Reagan has not hesitated to proclaim that he considers the reactionary oligarchies and the fascist military dictatorial regimes as valuable allies who should not be harassed with references to human rights and with whom one should be tolerant. He cast doubts on the enforcement of the Panama Canal treaties. He spoke of Cuba in a threatening tone. He expressed hostile ideological, political and economic intentions regarding Nicaragua and has wielded the threat of intervention in Central America, beginning with an offer of economic, military and technical aid to the military rulers of Guatemala and El Salvador.

At the same time, he expressed his desire to be able to rely, in accomplishing these policies, on the three most powerful countries in the area: Argentina, to which the United States offered to forget the past criticism of its violations of democracy and freedom; Brazil, which it is courting; and Mexico, who it is trying to force, along with Canada, into a political-economic alliance that is undesirable, inequitable and designed to subject these two countries to definitive U.S. hegemony.

The Latin American policy announced by Reagan is much more dangerous because it embodies the aspirations and projections of a large portion of the financial sector, the U.S. transnationals, and the aggressive sectors of the Pentagon and the CIA, and because it has been presented to the U.S. people as a national necessity required for the security of the nation, which is supposedly threatened by a Latin American subversive movement in which Cuba plays a major role, as well as by a secret and ominous USSR intervention in the area.

It is obvious that these positions of the new U.S. Government encourage and generate confidence in the fascist military leaders of Chile, Uruguay and Bolivia. They serve as a stimulus for those who refuse to democratize the Argentine process and they are grist to the mill of the genocidal leaders of Guatemala and El Salvador.

The defeat of the Manley government in Jamaica gives this projection of imperialism a useful instrument in the Caribbean. However, events show at the same time that it is not easy for the imperialists to impose their will in what was formerly their Latin American backyard.

In addition to the resounding popular victories of Nicaragua and Grenada and the unending struggle of the peoples of El Salvador and Guatemala, there are other extremely important elements that must be taken into consideration when analyzing the situation of Latin America and the Caribbean.

First there is the combativeness of the masses, which has reached unprecedented levels. The fact that revolutionary national liberation movements with strong social content are increasingly developing in our lands and the fact that the level of the mass movement in several countries has increased, means that the imperialist and oligarchic system of domination in this area is experiencing an increasingly serious crisis.

It also reveals the increasing maturity achieved by the labor movement, the peasants, youth, women and other popular sectors that already have numerous and expert vanguards.

All this became heroically and admirably evident during the struggle waged by the above-mentioned peoples of Central America and the Caribbean.

The Bolivian people also made manifest this position through their persistent resistance to the militarist onslaughts which the latter has been unable to control.

In Chile and Uruguay, Pinochet and the Montevideo gorillas have tried to escape through pseudodemocratic masquerades from the decision of their peoples, who reject the neofascism that they represent. During this period, the Latin American working class gave clear demonstrations of its maturity and force and of its union movement's potential. In Peru, Eduador and Colombia strikes of unprecedented magnitude were staged. Argentine workers, for their part, have been waging a constant struggle.

The unity achieved by the revolutionary forces in some countries and the advances made in that direction in others have constituted an important factor in the victories achieved and the advances made by the Latin American revolutionary movements of national and social liberation. That unity has also played an outstanding role as regards solidarity with the struggle processes.

Within the Latin American context, the active participation of Christian forces is more important every day. These forces are overcoming the conservative and at times reactionary positions held by Christian democratic parties in the area and they are actively joining the struggle for national liberation, democracy and the social transformations of our peoples. The fight of the revolutionary Christian elements, which sometimes include priests and other members of the Catholic hierarchy, alongside the leftist forces, constitutes an appreciable ingredient of the big historic changes currently taking place in our countries.

When we refer to the revival of the popular forces, there is another new element in the Latin American situation, which must be recorded: the social democratic presence. Social democratic currents and organizations have always existed in Latin America and the Caribbean, but the European social democracy, center of the Socialist International, has not granted them much importance in the past. Now, however, Latin America has become one of the permanent arenas of social democracy. To a large extent, this is due to the efforts made by this ideological and political current to achieve world hegemony in the process of changes stemming from the general crisis of capitalism. Social democracy also represents the economic interests of the national financial capital of certain European countries.

Despite the well-known ideological differences that separate the Marxist-Leninist revolutionaries from the social democrats, when we examine the immediate [situation] and we refer to the current historic conditions, the social democratic participation and the social-democratization of former bourgeois and oligarchic parties of Latin America are positive. They expand the forces and the field of struggle against U.S. imperialism's domination in Latin America. In the meantime, social democratic propaganda contributes to the political and social awakening of the masses wherever the Marxist-Leninist message has been totally suppressed.

A new element in the continent's political structure is the fact that the countries of greater industrial growth, the strongest in the area, are trying to escape the orbit of complete U.S. domination and aspire to exercise an independent position. Mexico has had a long tradition of independence.

The discovery of large oil deposits, while making Mexico a target that is increasingly coveted by imperialism, permits the Mexicans to organize a policy of economic resistance that gives definitive sustenance to their position of independence. This has been the international attitude maintained by the government of Lopez Portillo, whose decisions with regard to the decisive issues of peace, energy and development have been decidely progressive and whose support for the principle of nonintervention, sympathy with just causes of the peoples of this hemisphere and friendship and respect for Cuba have been influential factors in Latin American politics. [applause]

In this regard, it is possible to appreciate the full importance of the direct and categorical message sent to the new president of the United States by the president of Mexico, urging him to refrain from intervention, to respect the internal processes of the countries that are seeking to define themselves, since these countries have come of age and are capable of self-determination.

It is very important to consider that if Brazil were to carry on with its democratic advances and the changes for which broad sectors of its people are struggling, primarily its working class, it would be incorporated into the current of independence, with regard to Washington. With the failure of the Brazilian miracle, with the revelation of the disastrous role of the transnational companies and foreign capital, which have introduced dangerous reforms in the Brazilian economy, there remains the fact that the inequitable but obvious economic growth in Brazil introduces interests that clash with those of U.S. imperialism. Its inevitable economic trend makes Brazil a potential opponent of the United States that is destined to be more than a simple pawn of U.S. imperialist policy and is fated to manifest its own interestss.

All these elements add new complexities to the political struggle of Latin America and the Caribbean that the revolutionary forces will have to evaluate. It is obvious, however, that they do not tend to strengthen the positions of U.S. imperialism and that, on the contrary, they limit imperialism's capacity to maneuver in the face of the peoples' struggle.

In our main report to the first congress, we said that the PCC considers itself to be a modest but definite unit of the international communist movement and we added [applause] that our party participates in that movement with fully independent criteria, but at the same time with full loyalty to a single cause, alongside the communists of all countries. We must say to the second congress that the party leadership has tried to live up to those postulates in their strictest sense.

At the time, we also noted the need and the adviseability of strengthening ties with other revolutionary and popular organizations of progressive tendencies that were active in the continental and world spheres. In this period, not only has there been a strengthening of links with the parties, organizations and movements with which we have cooperated in the most fraternal manner for many years, but also new ties have been established with an ever increasing group of progressive parties and political organizations which have emerged as a result of the political development of the masses in those countries.

The PCC has maintained frequent and fruitful contacts, at times at the highest level, with socialist and social democratic parties and personalities from Latin America as well as from West Europe. In the future, we will maintain unchanged the strategic policy that leads us to strive, with the greatest unity, toward each of the objectives which our country has set out to achieve and which, therefore, should contribute to its enhancement. In this regard, we will work together with all those--regardless of class, political ideology, or religion--who are willing to do something on behalf of peace and detente.

We will also join with all the patriotic governments and with the anti-imperialist movements that are combatting, in one way or another, the domination of Washington. In this regard, we fell it is necessary to promote and support all those actions and attitudes of governments and political forces of the region which constitute an expression of sovereignty and of defense of legitimate national interests.

Our state foreign policy is inspired by the same principles and strategic considerations. Thus every day we have a closer friendship and comaraderie, first of all with the USSR [applause] which is always fraternal and in solidarity with our fatherland and to which we are joined by indestructible links of friendship; with the GDR [applause]; with the People's Republic of Bulgaria [applause]; the CSSR [applause]; the People's Republic of Hungary [applause]; the Mongolian People's Republic [applause]; the Polish People's Republic [applause]; and the Socialist Republic of Romania [applause], with which we are associated in CEMA. [applause] In addition, there are relations of close friendship and cooperation with the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia [applause]. The Socialist Republic of Vietnam is the inseparable sister of revolutionary Cuba. [applause]

We are joined by firm ties to the Lao People's Democratic Republic [applause] and in addition, relations have been resumed with Kampuchea [applause] following its liberation from the opprobrious regime of Pol Pot and Ieng Sary. With the DPRK [applause], which is struggling for the reunification of its people, we maintain links of reciprocal friendship and companionship.

While condemning its foreign policy positions and, therefore, without having any political relations with China, there are nevertheless normal relations at the state level which are expressed particularly in the area of trade. Our state relations are evolving normally with the People's Socialist Republic of Albania.

It is understandable that there should be permanent and increasingly extensive links between us and the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America, particularly with those which are members of the movement of nonaligned countries. It is not necessary to emphasize that among them, our most permanent and close relationships, our identification with regard to the main problems of international life should be with those which have proclaimed socialism or have assumed a socialist direction: Ethiopia [applause], Angola [applause], Mozambique [applause], the Congo [applause], Guinea-Bissau [applause], Cape Verde [applause], Madagascar [applause], Benin [applause], Sao Tome [applause] and Guinea [applause] in Africa; Algeria [applause], Democratic Yemen [applause], Iraq [applause], Syria [applause] and Libya [applause] among the Arab countries.

We have excellent relations with Tanzania [applause], Zambia [applause] and Zimbabwe [applause]. Diplomatic relations have been established with Iran. [applause] Friendship and close joint work in the movement of nonaligned countries characterize our relations with India [applause].

Although we do not have diplomatic relations with some of the countries that are members of the movement of nonaligned countries along with us, the only cases of a rupture of diplomatic relations have been that decided upon by the Republic of Somalia when we opposed its intervention against Ethiopia, and Morocco, which broke relations with Cuba because our country did its internationalist and nonaligned duty by supporting the people of the Western Sahara and recognizing the existence of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic.

Latin America continues to be an area of political contradictions that must have expression in the relations between Cuba and its neighbors in the area. This explains the fact that in addition to our well-known and unchanged rejection of regimes such as those of Chile, Uruguay, Paraguay, Guatemala or El Salvador, there are still cases in which the lack of diplomatic relations is entirely the responsibility of the respective rulers.

In recent times, the use of violence in order to enter embassies, and the improper and illegal use of asylum by small groups of criminal elements who were not subject to any type of political persecution and who sought to insure their departure from the country without fulfilling any legal formalities at the expense of and under the protection of other governments which normally would deny them visas by the usual means, elicited a firm response from the Cuban Government. [applause]

This made our relations with several governments difficult, particularly that of Venezuela, which chose to protect these elements rather than reach agreements that would guarantee the respect, security and immunity of the diplomatic seats while rigorously preserving the principles, rules and objectives of the right of asylum. The situation between the two governments has further deteriorated in face of the monstrous attempt to pardon those responsible for the repulsive crime of Barbados. These developments made those who think that the threat of propaganda adverse to Cuba in other countries must impose on the Cuban Government the acceptance of improper solutions realize that Cuba feels sufficiently sure about the justness of its policies to defy any campaign and to firmly maintain its principles. In the long run, the people of the world have learned the truth and our country's true position.

The incidents created in connection with the Peruvian Embassy ended with a reaffirmation of Cuba's position of principles. U.S. pressure, which found a natural echo among some of the most repressive Latin American governments, promoted a schism within the Latin American group at the UN General Assembly and a shameless political blockade prevented our country, even though it consistently obtained an evident majority of votes that reached the overwhelming figure of 90, from holding a post as a member of the UN Security Council, even though its international performance and its position as president of the nonalined movement entitled it to this post.

Under this circumstance, Cuba ceded on behalf of the friendly and prestigious government of Mexico. The interference against Cuba set a negative precedent at the United Nations and affected Colombia's international authority and prestige.

The recent voting at the United Nations, which made it impossible for Costa Rica to have access to the Security Council, constituted a sanction against those who this time interferred in Cuba's election to that high-ranking body of the international community.

It can be said, however, that an important number of Latin American and Caribbean governments have rejected the constant U.S. pressure to reduce their relations with Cuba. It is not only countries that are members of the nonalined movement, such as Guyana and Panama or countries like Nicaragua and Grenada, which have recently brought about revolutionary changes. Others like Ecuador, which has resumed its civilian and democratic path, have sought to imitate Mexico, which remains in the track of its lofty traditions, providing an outstanding example of Latin Americanism that does not yield to the influence of those who work to prevent the unity of our nations.

It is necessary for this congress to reiterate its decision to maintain relations of friendship and collaboration with those who respect our country without difference in ideology or social system constituting an obstacle to that purpose.

Before the Latin American public opinion we must insist that, for us, the unity of Latin America and the Caribbean is one of our permanent objectives and we regard it as the best way to achieve the historic purposes of our America and the democratic and independent consolidation of each of our countries.

The 5-year period has confirmed that the policy outlined by the party regarding relations with capitalist countries is correct. This policy is based on the possibility of maintaining bonds of fruitful cooperation and mutual respect without taking into account differences in social systems. This policy distinguishes between countries of medium development which have not yet risen to the status of great powers and other of greater economic power which never had colonial zones and which avoid hegemonic stands. It also takes into account the inevitable contradictions that persist among the major capitalist powers which lead them to adopt positions that are not always unanimous. This has prevented Yankee imperialism from more successfully implementing its policy of blocking revolutionary Cuba and drowning it both economically and politically. These relations with the developed capitalist countries have been subjected to the harassments characteristic of the political contingencies that have taken place in those countries. Thus, the defeat of the Scandinavian Social Democrats or of the Liberal Party led by Trudeau in Canada introduced temporary difficulties but did not prevent the flow of important commercial agreements with those countries.

Our ties with Finland are excellent with tendencies toward even greater development. Traditional relations continue with Spain. These relations were stimulated by the visit to our country by Spanish Government President Adolfo Suarez. The relations with EEC member countries have not been homogeneous and have not always been easy. Nonetheless, we must report to this congress that economic and financial movement has not been interrupted even with those countries with which we have had circumstantial political frictions. Japan is one of our major clients. Political exchanges and the possibility of economic exchanges are increasing with the FRG and the level of our exchanges with Italy has become stable. High-level communication persists with France and important economic exchanges have taken place. The fullness of these relations has been hindered, however, because the attitudes of principles of the Cuban revolution regarding the problem of colonialism remains in Latin America and have met with misunderstanding in certain French circles.

It is not possible, comrades, to refer to each of the situations that arise in our contacts with the international community. However, we must stop to examine our problems with our closest neighbor, which is also the major capitalist power of our days and the decisive hegemonic factor concerning Latin America.

Our relations with the United States comprise the greatest contradictions in our international relations. Although some of these contradictions include insurmoutable and permanent elements derived from the socialist character of the Cuban state and from the imperialist nature of the system that dominates the United States, this does not justify the extreme hostility of successive U.S. Governments toward Cuba. This hostility arises mainly from their stubborn rejection of the possibility of the existence in the area of socialist countries, and from their useless bid to erase revolutionary Cuba from the Latin American map.

The first congress approved the policy of principles for the party Central Committee. That policy was based on the decision to solve historic differences resulting from the aggression of imperialist U.S. Governments and, therefore, to set the possibility of discussing the normalization of our relations with that country.

That principled policy was also based on Cuba's firm decision not to take official steps toward that goal unless the United States is prepared to eliminate the blockade, discuss the problem of Guantanamo and to abstain from violating Cuban sovereignty.

At a given moment, during the Carter administration's initial period, it appeared that the U.S. leaders had a certain inclination toward starting on the road of negotiations. Undoubtedly, Carter made some positive gestures toward Cuba. At the beginning of his administration, he suspended the spy flights, he authorized travel by U.S. citizens to our country and he proposed the creation of an interest office.

Cuba was receptive to these gestures but ultimately, the reactionary ideas of some of his advisers prevailed over the less aggressive currents of the State Department under Vance and Muskie, and relations again became tense.

There are pending problems. The Mariel situation is not solved, Mariel is simply suspended. If the U.S. authorities continue encouraging illegal departures from the country and no solution is found to problems related to family reunification, Cuba considers it within its absolute rights to authorize the departure of citizens who want to leave, from any point of the territory. It is the United States which created this problem and it is up to that country to solve it. [applause]

The construction of socialism as a free and voluntary task continues to be a principle of our revolutionary process. This includes freedom to migrate. What does the United States--which so much likes to talk about human rights and the freedom of the citizens of the world to travel--have to say about this? Cuba is prepared to reach reasonable and constructive agreements on this matter.

Regarding air piracy, Cuba's attitude will depend on the U.S. policy toward those who hijack Cuban ships or planes to travel to the United States stimulated by the encouragement they receive from the U.S. authorities. If they apply drastic measures, we will also adopt such measures with those who hijack U.S. ships or planes to come to Cuba. If they are tolerant, we will also be tolerant. This is a matter that we are prepared to discuss on the basis of absolute reciprocity.

The election of Reagan introduces into Cuban-U.S. relations an element of uncertainty, or more properly, of danger. No president can be judged before he takes office. No one knows at this moment exactly what Reagan plans to do. We have to be guided strictly by the Republican platform, the public statements made by the candidate and the thinking openly reflected by the advisers of the new U.S. president.

The intentions that have been expressed are extremely reactionary and dangerous. It is unquestionable that there has been a victory of the extreme rightwing in U.S. politics. The duty of peoples is to be realistic, not to delude themselves and to prepare to resolutely confront the policy announced by imperialism and the reactionary group that has just won power.

It would have been preferable to wait until the new president took office on 20 January to hear his of ficial statements as the ruler of the United States, but our congress begins today and it is our most sacred duty to prepare the party and the people for the struggle that may be coming. [applause]

Statements have been made which threaten the world, which threaten Latin America and which particularly threaten Cuba. The idea held by Reagan and his advisers to achieve military superiority and negotiate from positions of force with the socialist camp is simply absurd. It would lead to the most perocious arms race amid the most acute economic and international crises ever to be experienced in contemporary times. It would be to postulate that peoples are fatally destined to destroy each other irremediably. It could be explained in the era of harquebuses and corssbows, but not in the era of thermonuclear weapons.

Who has the right to play in this manner with the survival of humans? Reagan, in our opinion,will not be able to resolve any of the essential problems of the United States--inflation, unemployment, the energy crisis, economic recession, vices, drugs, violence, crimes, corruption--but those ideas on foreign policy may endanger world peace.

Kissinger, one of the present advisers of the future president, clings to the obsolete, reactionary and fascist geopolitical idea of the division of the world into spheres of influence; that is, the freezing of progress and changes in the world and the suppression of the national independence of any country with regard to its right to decide on the kind of economic and social regime it should apply. This will not be accepted by the socialist countries. This will not be accepted by the revolutionary and progressive forces of the world. Cuba will emphatically oppose these stale and Machiavellian objectives.

Reagan and his advisers have proclaimed their intention to form alliances with the rightist, reactionary and fascist forces on this continent, but the peoples of our America will never submit to this ignominious subjugation. The workers, peasants, intellectuals and students will resist this cruel destiny. The recent history of our hemisphere has demonstrated our peoples fighting ability. It is useless to scorn them, to ignore them, to underestimate them. Nicaragua, El Salvador, Grenada and Guatemala have demonstrated the error of this. How many Yankee and fascist soldiers will be needed to subjugate hundreds of millions of Latin Americans? There are no longer any Switzerlands in our America. Eloquent examples of those illusions are Chile and Uruguay. There are no longer any masks to conceal our oppression. There are no longer any military or repressive mechanisms, no matter how cruel and sophisticated they may be, developed by the U.S. intelligence agencies, that are capable of containing the insurgency of peoples.

Who can present our people from fighting sooner or later? Oppression will not last forever. Terror and fear will not prevail eternally. The awakening of the peoples has become more fearful than all things thought up by the oppressors to subjugate them. One would have to be blind not to see this. The more internal tyranny, the more imperialist oppression, the more rebellion, and this rebellion will be invincible.

It is truly incredible that in today's world, some people should talk of military intervention and the application once again of the big stick policy on our continent. It would be better for them to wake up from these delusions. Others have also dreamed of dominating the world and in the end they were converted into ashes. Today, peoples have many varied forms of struggle. Latin America and the Caribbean have over 300 million inhabitants; its area is twice that of the United States.

Reagan has said that the error in Vietnam was not having waged the war, but having lost it. In Latin America, the error of waging war could mean a defeat greater than that of Vietnam. Who has told Mr Reagan that to wage war is to have the right to win it?

There has even been talk of a probable intervention in Central America. Any Latin American people will fight resolutely and bravely against any Yankee intervention in their territory. If the Yankee Marines or the interventionist forces disembark in Central America, the U.S. people will again see the sorrowful spectacle of the disembarkation of the coffins of their soldiers on their own territory. [applause]

Those who go to kill Latin Americans will also have to resign themselves to die. At fault will be those who refuse to learn the lessons of history and of the irreversible changes that have taken place in our world. No one is threatening the life of the United States, but no one will accept, without a resolute and heroic struggle, the U.S. threat to our lives. It is time to say that the Latin American peoples fear nothing and no one. [applause] [shouting of slogans]

They reject the big stick with indignation and moreover, they scorn the imperialist carrot, despite the myth, despite blackmail, despite the repugnant attempts to intimidate the patriots of Latin America, the sons of Bolivar, of San Martin, of O'Higgins, of Sucre, of Hidalgoi, of Morelos, of Morazan, of Maceo and of Marti. [applause] [shouting of slogans]

Reagan and his advisers have talked of militarily blocking Cuba under any pretext, including, they affirm, if the Soviet Union were to carry out an action in any other part of the world. This is a disgusting and cynical idea. Cuba will be ready to defend itself against any military blockade or Yankee imperiliast invasion. In this country the struggle will not cease as long as there is one single patriot able to fight. [applause]

There are millions willing to do so, until the last drop of their blood is shed. Whoever tries to take over Cuba, as the bronze titan [Antonio Maceo] used to say, will gather the dirt of its soil soaked with blood if he does not perish in the struggle. [shouting, applause]

It is known worldwide that the U.S. authorities conceived, organized and promoted the assassination of leaders of the Cuban revolution and of other governments. The CIA was the center of these disgusting practices. What can we now expect from that institution when Reagan's advisers have said that it will have a free hand and when none other than Goldwater is going to be the president of the Senate's intelligence committee?

We feel that one of Reagan's first statements should be that his government will not organize, authorize or permit the CIA to make plans to assassinate leaders of other countries. We sincerely hope that these practices will not be repeated. Otherwise, the U.S. Government would be institutionalizing and stimulating the worst kind of terrorism in the world, and all the responsibility for and consequences of its acts will fall upon it.

If an olive branch is extended we will not reject it, but if the hostility continues and attacks are made we will respond forcefully. Cuba realizes that there is a worldwide historical need for normal relations to exist between all countries of the world based on mutual respect, the recognition of the sovereign rights of each country and the principle of nonintervention. Cuba believes that the normalization of its relations with the United States would be favorable to the political atmosphere of Latin America and the Caribbean, and would contribute to world detente.

Cuba is, therefore, not opposed to resolving its historical differences with the United States, but no one should expect Cuba to change its position or renounce its principles. Cuba is and will continue to be socialist. [applause]

Cuba is and will continue to be a friend of the USSR and all the socialist states. [applause]

Cuba is and will continue to be an internationalist country. [applause]

Principles are not negotiable. Fatherland or death, we will triumph. [lengthy applause and shouting]

Theses, Draft Resolutions

FL192145 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1400 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Report of Committee on Theses Approved by the First Congress of the Cuban Communist Party [PCC], read by PCC Secretariat member Julio Camacho Aguilera at the 18 December afternoon session of the Second PCC Congress in Havana's Palace of Conventions--recorded]

[Text] Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz, comrades at the presiding table, comrade delegates and invited guests:

The working committee in charge of analyzing the resolutions related to the theses approved by the first congress met in Havana at 2300 on 17 December 1980 in hall No 2 of the Palace of Conventions; 99 percent of the delegates involved attended the meeting. After electing the chairman and the documentation committee, this working committee heard and adopted the criteria and ideas considered in drawing up the draft resolutions, as well as the entire discussion process carried out before the congress in connection with their contents. The committee believes that the essential portions of the theses and resolutions approved by the First PCC Congress are still valid, since they set forth general guidelines which are in harmony with our current conditions, and include the basic directives for the practical work to be carried out both in the area of domestic police and of foreign policy.

The committee tok into account the fact that these theses were discussed and analyzed by our Communist Party members, who supported them unanimously, and the fact that they have served as the guidelines for the political work and for the creative efforts of our entire people during the past 5-year period. Keeping in mind the principles, bases and objectives of the theses of the first congress, the central preparatory committee thought it necessary to draw up draft resolutions which represent an attempt to summarize the main tasks completed and to set forth the tasks of the forthcoming 5-year period.

Prior to evaluating how the agreements of the first congress have been fulfilled, the Central Committee departments drew up the draft resolutions on the various economic, political and social issues. When necessary, the state organizations directly responsible for these issues were consulted. These draft resolutions were analyzed and enriched by the central preparatory committee and were subsequently reviewed by the 10th plenum of the party's Central Committee held recently. To the above we may add the analyses of these documents by the delegations from all the provinces prior to the congress. These analyses led to a series of suggestions and proposals which were then discussed within our committee.

With this as background, and as a result of the ideas derived from the careful study of each of the documents submitted, the committee analyzed and discussed the draft resolutions, reached conclusions and voiced its opinion on each. We therefore propose the following to the congress:

1. To approve in their entirety and without modification the following resolutions: resolution on policy related to religion, the church and believers; resolution on the improvement of the organizations of the people's power; resolution on policy related to the selection, training, location, promotion and improvement of the cadres; resolution on the mass communications media; resolution on the agrarian issue and relations with peasants; resolution on educational policy; resolution on the ideological struggle; resolution on science and technology.

2. To approve the draft resolutions related to the theses on domestic life, on the study of Marxism-Leninism in our country, on the training of children and youths, on full equality for women, on sports and physical education, on artistic and literary culture, and on international policy, including in these resolutions the amendents agreed upon by this working committee which are in your hands.

3. To entrust to the party's Central Committee the task of drawing up and approving the regulations, norms, instructions and directives or processes which will guarantee the fulfillment of the tasks set forth in these resolutions.

I ask the chairman to submit the above proposals for the consideration of the congress. Thank you.

Modification of Party Statutes

FL192016 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1400 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Report of Committee on Modifications of Party Statutes read by Party Secretariat member Jorge Risquet at the 18 December afternoon session of second PCC congress in Havana--recorded]

[Text] Comrade Fidel Castro, first secretary of our party, comrades, friends and guests, comrade delegates: The working committee appointed to analyze the draft to modify the statutes met in Havana at 2300 on 17 December 1980 in hall No 3 of this Palace of Conventions. There were 150 delegates participating in this meeting, in other words, 100 percent of the committee members. After electing the chairman and the documentation committee, this working committee heard the report on the criteria applied in drawing up the draft and on the entire process which preceded the congress to discuss this document.

In the collective analysis and debate of the draft submitted, the committee in charge of studying it arrived at the following conclusion. With regard to the fulfillment of the party statutes which went into force in January 1976, our leadership organizations and the rank and file organizations have made every effort to apply them strictly in practice, in accordance with the Leninist principles for the organization and leadership of the party established in the statutes. As a result of the experiences gained during this period, the qualitative and quantitative development achieved by the party, and the economic, political and social changes required by the building of socialism in our fatherland, we are faced with the need to modify the party statutes in an attempt to bring them up to date and to achieve greater precision and clarity in their formulation. Of course, these modifications do not affect the principles and the essence of the ideas contained in the statutes approved by the first congress, which are theoretically grounded in Leninist ideas on the organization and leadership of the party. The proposed modifications are the result of a long process in which our entire party has participated, and which has been characterized by an in-depth analysis and by the widespread participation of our cadres, members and candidate members in the debate on the statutes. This was evident in the far-reaching discussions and in the quantity and quality of the proposals made.

The analysis of the draft to modify the statutes involved the participation of 24,050 party cells and 312,358 party members and candidate members, as well as all of the party's leadership organizations. A total of 2,609 modification proposals and suggestions--many of them similar--were made at the meetings held. These proposals and suggestions were carefully analyzed and 407 were accepted and were subsequently included, either partially or completely, in the text of the draft under study. The extreme thoroughness with which the draft to modify the statutes was discussed, as well as the observations, amendments and additions which emerged from that analysis, show that our country's hundreds of thousands of Communists are concerned about continuing to strengthen the party, about raising its combativity, about improving its organizational structure and about strengthening the role of each of its entities, its rank and file organizations and its members in the fulfillment of all the tasks inherent in its mission as the major leading force in the state and in all society.

Many of the proposals which were not accepted are valuable and will be kept in mind when the work of modifying the regulations is undertaken.

In the case of other proposals, which are in the minority, it was not deemed appropriate to include them in the statutes, since they referred to local or specific issues and were therefore not in accordance with the general nature of this document.

At its session last night, this working committee, keeping in mind the above criteria, analyzed and discussed the proposals submitted by the delegates in fulfillment of the mandates from their respective delegations. After having been thoroughly debated, the draft to modify the statutes was unanimously approved by the participating delegates without any additional modification. Likewise, the corresponding resolution was unanimously approved. The committee agreed to propose the following to the plenum of this second party congress: to approve the draft to modify the party statutes, as well as the corresponding draft resolution. Both documents are in your hands. I ask Comrade Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, the chairman of the session, to submit this proposal to be debated and voted upon thank you very much.

Party Programmatic Platform

FL200010 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1400 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Report of the Committee on Party Programmatic Platform read by PCC Secretariat member Antonio Perez Herrero at the 18 December afternoon session of the Second PCC Congress in Havana's Palace of Conventions--recorded]

[Text] Comrade Fidel Castro, comrades at the presiding table, comrade delegates and invited guests:

The committee of the second congress in charge of analyzing the programmatic platform, meeting in the Palace of Conventions on the evening of 17 December 1980, with 149 delegates, or 99.5 percent of the committee members in attendance, agreed to recommend that the resolution on the party's programmatic platform be approved. The text of this resolution states:

The second PCC congress has granted the utmost importance to a detailed analysis of the programmatic platform approved by the first congress. The platform deals with the permanent principles of our struggle as embodied in the foundations, the nature and the work of the Cuban revolution, as well as with the programmatic principles and objectives involving tasks and plans which, as Comrade Fidel Castro pointed out in the central report to the first congress, will demand several 5-year periods of intensive and creative work in all areas of economic, political, cultural and social activities.

Some major programmatic objectives for the 5-year period set forth in the programmatic platform have been achieved. Other longer-term objectives, especially in the area of the revolution's social work, are still being fulfilled. The economic goals programmed for the period reflect the consequences of international conditions, of natural phenomnea which had considerable impact on major crops, and of certain weaknesses in the handling and administration of these goals.

It is for all of these reasons that the second congress has reached the conclusion that the programmatic platform is fully valid for the 1981-1985 5-year period, and in this connection adopts the following resolution:

1. The second congress has recognized that validity of all the theses and resolutions approved by the first party congress, enriching them with the experiences of recent years, in the conviction that in the main they set forth the political guidelines to be followed during the next 5-year period and beyond. The programmatic platform summarizes the theses approved by the first congress. Consequently, the resolutions of this second congress complement the political guidelines contained in the platform, which as such retain full validity. In conjunction with these resolutions, with the central report and with the economic and social guidelines for the period 1981-1985, the principles and postulates of the platform should guide the policy to be followed in the various activities of our people and in our revolution's foreign policy. The specific plans of the country's various institutions should be in accordance with the objectives and tasks set forth in the above.

2. The resolution adopted by the first congress on the platform states that this document constitutes the basis for the work which should be carried out by the Central Committee in drawing up the final version of the party program, which it was hoped would be submitted for consideration by the second congress. By setting forth this essential task, the first congress was acting on the belief that in the course of the 5-year period it would be possible to create the conditions needed to perfect the platform. Among the various factors which explain why it is not yet advisable to incorporate into the platform the elements which will make it possible to consider the platform to be the final party program is the hope of having a more solidly based perspective, which can only be achieved through the process of mapping a long-term economic and social development strategy which is scientifically drawn up.

The reorganization and the far-reaching changes which took place with regard to the management and planning of our economy during the past 5-year period as a result of the agreements reached at the first congress, demanded that all efforts be concentrated on those immediate objectives. It was not until 2 years ago that it became materially possible, and that the basic organizational conditions were created, to undertake the initial work to formulate the strategy--a task on which we are currently working.

3. Based on these considerations, the Second PCC Congress declares that the programmatic platform continues to be, until the party program is drawn up as stipulated in the resolution in this connection approved by the first congress, the guiding document, the main ideological instrument, and the fighting banner for all of the party's work and all of the revolution's activities.

The Second PCC Congress entrusts the Central Committee with the guidance and control of the work which must continue to be carried out to create the conditions needed to finish formulating the draft program of our party. Thank you very much.

Main Report Resolution

FL200046 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1400 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Report of the Committee in Charge of Presenting the Resolution on the Main Report to the Second PCC Congress, read by PCC Secretariat member Antonio Perez Herrero at the 18 December afternoon session of Second PCC Congress in Havana's Palace of Conventions--recorded]

[Text] Comrade Fidel Castro, comrades at the presiding table, comrade delegates and invited guests:

The Second PCC Congress has heard and analyzed the valuable report read by Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz, the first secretary of the Central Committee. The congress is of the opinion that the main report is critical, objective analytical, educational and instructive and constitutes a new and brillant example from the first secretary of our party of how communists should analyze their own work and at the same time look forward with determination, firmness and serenity to their future tasks.

The report represents an in-depth balance sheet of the work carried out in fulfillment of the social and economic guidelines of the last 5-year period. It highlights the successes achieved by our people in the economic development of the country, in strengthening revolutionary awareness, in strengthening political, social and mass organizations, and in the leadership role of our party. It shows how today the Cuban revolution is stronger than ever. The report examines in detail the problems and weaknesses which we have had to deal with in the course of the past 5 years in building the economic base for socialism. It highlights the attitude, the efforts and the sacrifices of all our working people to achieve these results, and justly acknowledges the cooperation of the socialist countries, especially the great aid which the USSR has rendered to us in all areas. [applause]

The congress notes that the report establishes and sets forth in a diligent and consistent manner--and within the framework of Marxism-Leninism--the policy to be followed in all areas of our country's domestic life, as well as the principal objectives to be achieved and the basic tasks to be performed during the next few years.

The report reflects, in all its grandeur, the highly internationalist spirit shown by our people during the past few years--a spirit which has become evident in the fraternal, unselfish and decisive aid given to other fraternal peoples, both for the defense of their sovereignty and territorial integrity, and in the economic and social areas. Combatants of the glorious FAR, doctors, construction workers and technicians have all been and continue to be involved in this work with dignity.

The congress stresses the fact that the foreign policy of our party, as well as the role played by our state as a member of the nonalined movement, are expressed and correctly and thoroughly evaluated in the main report. Likewise, this report realistically and bravely analyzes the current international situation and the dangers which threaten peace. It sets forth--within the framework of a firm and consistent position based on principle--the foreign policy of the Cuban revolution, which is based on internationalism, unshakable friendship with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries, and solidarity with all the anti-imperialist and revolutionary forces in the world in our time.

As the central report points out, the successes achieved since the first congress of our party are the result of the arduous and persistent work carried out by our working class and by the masses of our people in close cooperation with the party. These successes prove, unquestionably, the correctness of the policy which the leadership of our party and of our revolution--headed by its highest leader, our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro Ruz--has adopted in each situation and in all major areas. [applause]

The Second PCC Congress approves all the portions of the main report submitted for its consideration, and in view of the report's value and significance to the work of all party rank and file entities and organizations--as well as to the activities of party cadres, members and candidate members--the congress advises that it be studied in detail, since the congress looks upon this report as a basic document for all party work in the next few years.

The Second PCC Congress, expressing the feelings of all Cuban Communists and of all our people, once again ratifies the unshakable determination expressed in the main report. Cuba will be ready to defend itself against any economic blockade or any Yankee imperialist invasion. In this country, the struggle will not end while there is even one patriot able to fight, and there are millions ready to fight until they have shed the last drop of their blood. This congress reaffirms the determination to build a socialist and communist society under the sure, firm and consistent leadership of our leader and guide, the first secretary of the Central Committee, Comrade Fidel Castro. [prolonged applause]

Economic, Social Guidelines

FL192342 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1843 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Committee report read by PCC Secretariat member Lionel Soto, deputy chairman of the committee which analyzed the economic and social guidelines for 1981-85 and the resolution on the economic management and planning system, at the 19 December morning session of the Second PCC Congress in Havana's Palace of Conventions--recorded]

[Text] Comrade Fidel Castro, comrade friends and guests, comrades all: The Second PCC Congress working committee which analyzed the draft of the economic and social guidelines for the 1981-85 5-year period and the draft resolution of the economic management and planning system met on the evening of 17 December. The meeting was attended by 148 of the 150 delegates who formed the committee.

Concerning the draft of the guidelines, the committee studied the proposals submitted by the delegates from the various provinces and approved a series of amendments to the document discussed. These have been circulated among the delegates with the suggestion that they be accepted. The committee also decided to recommend that the second congress approve the following draft resolution on the guidelines.

Draft resolution: The Second PCC Congress meeting in Havana from 17 to 20 December 1980, discussed and analyzed the draft of the economic and social guidelines for the 1981-85 5-year period. The congress has been informed of the steps taken in the process of preparing the draft of the guidelines which was drawn up by the work group appointed by the central preparatory committee. Moreover, the congress has been informed that the aforementioned draft of the guidelines was discussed by 2,592,900 workers, peasants, students and workers in general belonging to the organizations of the party and the Union of Young Communists, the trade unions, and the peasant cooperatives and associations. There were 7,515 modifications, additions and suggestions proposed at these meetings. These proposals were duly examined and grouped under topics and codes; 499 were incorporated into the final draft. They have enriched the document with valuable ideas and perfected it. We must note that almost all the proposals concerned specific matters involving the branches and sectors of the economy and services. Neither the concept nor the strategy of the guidelines was questioned.

The draft of the guidelines, together with its modifications as introduced at the committee meeting, was approved by the committee selected by the congress for this purpose. Once approved at the second congress the guidelines will be the foundation for the definitive formulation of the second 5-year plan for 1981-85 that the National Assembly of the People's Government will decide on.

Having heard the report by the appropriate committee, the congress:

1. Approves the economic and social guidelines for the 1981-85 5-year period.

2. Recommissions the PCC Central Committee to adopt the measures necessary for their implementation.

3. Commissions the PCC Central Committee Politburo and Secretariat to prepare methods for periodic checks each year of the items in the guidelines, and the reporting each year of the outcome of the implementation of these guidelines to the PCC Central Committees.

4. Recommends that the National Assembly and the local organs of the People's Government make periodic checks and an annual evaluation of how the second 5-year plan is progressing in light of the directives formulated in these guidelines.

Regarding the draft resolution on the economic management and planning system, which was also examined in committee, the committee decided to approve it and recommend its approval by the second congress. Thank you [applause]

Composition of Delegates

FL192110 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1842 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Report by Carol Miranda, second secretary of the Pinar del Rio Provincial Party Committee and chairman of the Committee on the Composition of Delegates to the Congress, at 19 December morning session of the Second PCC Congress at Havana's Palace of Conventions--recorded]

[Text] Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the PCC Central Committee: Comrade Chairman; comrade delegates; esteemed guests; the committee has analyzed the composition of the delegates to the second congress of our party and also individually confirmed their legitimate status. A total of 1,780 delegates were elected to the second congress. Of those, 1,772 are present; of these, 85.5 percent are men and 14.5 percent are women.

Comrades, among the delegates to our second congress are founders of the first Marxist-Leninist party [applause], old and combative revolutionary fighters for the emancipation of the working class and the establishment of socialism in our fatherland [applause], heroic fighters in the Moncada feat [applause], participants in the 30 November uprising, the Granma landing [applause], the fighting in the Sierra Maestra [applause], the actions of 13 March [applause], the people's uprising in Cienfuegos [applause], the underground [applause], and other heroic deeds that were milestones in the fight against tyranny and neocolonial domination of our fatherland by Yankee imperialism. [applause]

Many combatants in the struggle against the bandits, participants in the heroic feat in Playa Giron [applause] are also present, as well as other anonymous heroes who, with their determination and courage, have decisively contributed to the defense of our people's revolutionary conquests. [applause]

Among our delegates are national work or harvest heroes and heroines [applause] who symbolize in an exemplary manner the position of the Cuban working class in the daily struggle to build the material and technical foundation of the socialist society in our beloved fatherland. [applause] There are also among the delegates heroic internationalist combatants and workers who, weapon in hand [applause], or with work tools or science, contributed and are contributing to the independence and development of other brother countries.

The delegates to the second congress in terms of occupation are as follows: 44.7 percent are workers directly involved in production, services or teaching; 27.3 percent are political leaders; 13.4 percent are administrative personnel; 13.7 percent are combatants of the FAR or the Ministry of the Interior; and 0.9 percent have other occupations.

The social origin of the delegates to the second congress is as follows: 66.1 percent come from the working sector; 23.3 percent come from the peasant sector; and 10.6 percent come from other social sectors or classes.

Almost 64 percent of the delegates fought against the tyranny in the moutains and the plains; 36.1 percent have directly participated in combat actions in defense of the conquest of the revolution, whether fighting against counterrevolutionary gangs bankrolled by Yankee imperialsim or on the historic shores of Playa Giron; 32.9 percent of the delegates have participated in the fighting against imperialist aggressions on the soil of fraternal countries, or have helped or are helping in the development of these and other countries in the fight against underdevelopment, in keeping with our proletarian internationalist duties.

Of the total number of delegates, 58.1 percent have attended political schools at various levels in and out of the country.

Over 38 percent of the delegates have been party militants for 15 or more years; 38.9 percent between 10 and 15 years; and 22.8 percent from 1 to 10 years.

Of the delegates present, 483 were also delegates to the first congress of our party.

Comrade delegates, this is the report from the Committee on the Composition of the Delegates to the Second PCC Congress. Thank you very much. [applause]

Politburo, Secretariat Members

FL201955 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1833 GMT 20 Dec 80

[Introduction of PCC Politburo and Secretariat by Cuban President Fidel Castro at 20 December morning session of the Second PCC Congress at Havana's Palace of Conventions--recorded]

[Text] Comrades: in addition to the agreement announced by Comrade Fabio Grobart [confirming Fidel Castro as first party secretary], our Central Committee in its first meeting elected Comrade Raul Castro Ruz as second party secretary. [Prolonged applause]

The Central Committee elected as active members of the Politburo, the first and second party secretaries, and Comrades Juan Almeida Bosque, Comrade Ramiro Valdes, Co rade Guillermo Garcia, Comrade Jose Machado Ventura, Comrade Blas Roca Calderio, Comrade Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, Comrade Osvaldo Dorticos Torrado, Comrade Pedro Miret Prieto, Comrade Sergio del Valle, Comrade Armando Hart Davalos, Comrade Arnaldo Milian, Comrade Jorge Risquet, Comrade Julio Camacho Aguilera, Comrade Osmani Cienfuegos Gorriaran [applause after each name].

The Central Committee elected as alternate members of the Politburo: Comrade Abelardo Colome Ibarra, Comrade Senen Casas Regueiro, Comrade Sixto Batista Santana, Comrade Antonio Perez Herrero, Comrade Humberto Perez Gonzalez, Comrade Jesus Montane Oropesa, Comrade Miguel Cano Blanco, Comrade Vilma Espin Guillois, Comrade Roberto Veiga Menendez, Comrade Jose Ramirez Cruz and Comrade Armando Acosta Cordero. [applause after each name]

The Central Committee elected as chairman of the Control and Revisions Committee Comrade Juan Almeida Bosque. [applause]

By decision of the Central Committee, the Secretariat will be made up of the first secretary, the second secretary and by the following comrades: Pedro Miret Prieto [applause] to head the Departments of Consumption and Services and Basic Industry [applause]; Jorge Risquet to head the Departments of Transportation and Communications and Construction [applause]; Perez Herrero to head the Departments of Education, Revolutionary Orientation and Internal Education [applause]; Lionel Soto to head the Department of Economy [applause]; Jose Ramon Machado Ventura to head the Departments of Organization, General Affairs, State and Judicial Organs, Mass Organizations, Administration and Finance [applause]; Comrade Jesus Montane Oropesa to head the General Department of Foreign Relations and the America Department [applause]; and Comrade Julian Rizo to head the Departments of the Sugar Sector and Agriculture-Livestock [applause].

Thank you very much, comrades. [applause]

MASS RALLY MARKS END OF SECOND PCC CONGRESS

FL202209 [Editorial Report] Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish at 2056 GMT on 20 December carries live color coverage of the mass rally at Havana's Plaza de la Revolucion marking the end of the Second PCC Congress held at Havana's Palace of Conventions from 17 to 20 December. Commander in Chief Fidel Castro is the announced main speaker.

Coverage opens with cameras panning the crowd as a television announcer describes the scene. Surrounding buildings contain various murals: one shows a portrait of Camilo Cienfuegos and Che Guevara. Fidel and Raul Castro arrive at the dais at 2059 GMT and Nicaraguan Defense Minister Humberto Ortega raises Fidel's hand. Castro also waves to the people. Castro and Politburo Member Carlos Rafael Rodriguez briefly speak with Grenadian Prime Minister Maurice Bishop. The people wave Cuban and red flags.

The national anthem is played at 2101 GMT as the cameras focus on the Cuban flag and cut into a closeup of Fidel Castro. After the national anthem is played, television staff announcer Manolo Ortega, acting as master of ceremonies, sets the scene, calling the rally "the closing ceremony of the Second PCC Congress." He announces that Fidel Castro is presiding over the ceremony, along with the other members of the party Politburo, Secretariat and Central Committee, as well as the foreign delegations invited to the party congress.

A member of the Jose Marti Pioneers organization then speaks on behalf of her organization.

After her brief remarks a member of the Federation of Intermediate-Level Students makes similar remarks. Pledges also are made by representatives of the Federation of University Students, the Union of Young Communists, the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution, the Federation of Cuban Women, the National Association of Small Farmers, and the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions.

At 2135 GMT Ortega introduces Grenadian Prime Minister Maurice Bishop who begins speaking at 2136 GMT. Bishop speaks until 2144 GMT, and is followed by Nicaraguan Defense Minister Humberto Ortega Saavedra, who speaks from 2146 GMT until 2205 GMT.

Fidel Castro is then introduced and begins speaking at 2207 GMT, after almost 2 minutes of prolonged applause. Castro speaks until 2325 GMT, after which coverage of the rally concludes.

Humberto Ortega Speech

PA210249 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2144 GMT 20 Dec 80

[Speech by Nicaraguan Commander of the Revolution Humberto Ortega Saavedra, member of the Political Committee of the National Directorate of the Sandinist National Liberation Front, at the PCC Second Congress closing rally at the Jose Marti Plaza de La Revolucion in Havana--live]

[Text] Brother working country of Cuban workers, peasants, students, revolutionary intellectuals, patriots and internationalists:

On one occasion during the harsh struggle by Sandino against the Yankee marines at a time that was very difficult, when some lazy people were abandoning our heroic struggle against the Yankee interventionists, Sandino said: Those who hesitate and those who are timid are abandoning us because of the character of our struggle. Only the workers and the peasants will continue to the end, and the people of Cuba have demonstrated in their revolutionary practice that the workers and the peasants are the ones who are in this revolution and that those who hesitated and the cowards are the ones who are in Miami. [applause]

Our vanguard, the Sandinist National Liberation Front, and our National Directorate are aware and fully convinced that in our fatherland it will also be the workers and the peasants, the honest and patriotic Nicaraguans, those who are not cowards, who will continue to the end, raising the red and black flag that Sandino raised and that was raised in the Sierra Maestra by the Cuban people together with Fidel in order to take over power for the people. [applause]

The enemies of the peoples, those who are opposed to progress, the warmongers, the adventurers who are opposed to peace, those who want to disrupt the magnificent and formidable national and international unity of the workers, of the peoples, of the democratic governments, in the struggle against imperialism, and the international reactionaries wish to intimidate us by making warlike noises in an attempt to stop the overwhelming advance of the peoples who are fighting for their national and social liberation.

They spend money--the product of the exploitation of our people and of the blood shed by the Indians, mestizos, blacks, workers and peasants of our America, the product of the sweat of our people--on inventions to perfect their arms race. Our enemies may invent many weapons, but they will never be able to invent a weapon that will turn our courageous peoples into cowards [applause] because the basic weapon in the people's stubborn and permanent struggle against the reactionaries is precisely that unyielding determination to shed our last drop of blood in the defense of the revolutionaries' interests which are the interests of the working nations, the workers, peasants and indians, the poor of all our Latin America, of the Latin America of Bolivar, Marti and Sandino. [applause]

We are no longer alone, as was Sandino in his struggle against the Yankee marines in which, despite the difficult international situation, Sandino inflicted a great military defeat by expelling those interventionists from our fatherland. [applause]

A great Central American revolutionary fought with Sandino during those difficult days. His name was Farabundo Marti. [applause] That great revolutionary was massacred along with 30,000 Salvadorans in 1932 during the first great popular insurrection of that same courageous nation, which is still shedding its blood today to gain the freedom sought by Farabundo Marti and Sandino. [applause] Those difficult years were hard times for our peoples. However, there were always men, our nations always had men to lead their rebellion and fight against the oppressor and the interventionist. The years passed and the struggle of the historic men against the exploitation and the oppression developed not only in Latin America but throughout the world. When, in Cuba in 1953, the dignity and the courage was present with the attack on the Moncada garrison, 3 years later, in Nicaragua, the dignity and the courage were present in the figure of Rigoberto Lopez Perez who killed the first Somoza, Anastasio Somoza Garcia, giving his own life in the process. [applause] When the struggle continued in the Sierra Maestra, in Nicaragua a Sandinist veteran who was with Sandino, already with a white beard, was starting the armed struggle in Nicaragua again in 1958. When Cuba succeeded, Carlos Fonseca was being wounded in the mountains of Nicaragua as he was forging the Sandinist National Liberation Front, as he was forging the victory of 19 July 1979. [applause]

When the Sandinists finally managed to gain control, thousands of Nicaraguans had already given their valuable lives. Tens of thousands of victims fell in the struggle against the imperialist lord of the north, which had been staged by our people since the last century. This blood and this martyrdom that our people experienced to gain control cannot be forgotten by our people, who are building the revolutionary future. Our people will never forget our heroes and martyrs, for that very memory is the main weapon which strengthens our fighting morale and our determination to fight, because it is the main weapon for moving men and the peoples in the struggle against the weapons that are being perfected by the warmongers in an attempt to stop the historical advance of humanity.

For this reason, when we see this demonstration of support for this revolution, which is authentic, we have confidence that in Cuba, as in Nicaragua, the main force continues to be the dignity, the revolutionary morale and the determination to build the new society, as well as the determination to give our lives to defend this revolution, which has cost so much not only for the people of Cuba but for the people of Latin America, because this revolution is part of Latin America. [applause]

I was saying that we are not alone. Millions of men in our America and the world are no longer willing to be slaves of exploitation and oppression. Most importantly, in our Latin America our peoples have realized that the era of the big stick policy which was used in its time by the United States against Nicaragua, for example, can no longer be applied so easily, so simply against our people, first of all, because Cuba, Grenada, and Nicaragua are not alone in Latin America and Latin America is not isolated from the other revolutionary movements of the world, especially the progressive, revolutionary governments of the socialist camp, which supports the peoples' causes. We are positive that they will not stand by with arms folded in the face of threats from the imperialists and the warmongers. [applause]

Our revolutionary processes contribute to the universal struggle of the peoples against exploitation. This is why we say that we are not alone, because we are part of the world struggle against this exploitation.

In closing, I wish to say in the name of our people, that the Sandinist people's revolutionary dictionary that we use daily has many words except for those which refer to crippling, surrender, hesitation and cowardice. These words no longer exist in the red and black dictionary of our Sandinist people. Free fatherland [or death, crowd replies] [applause]